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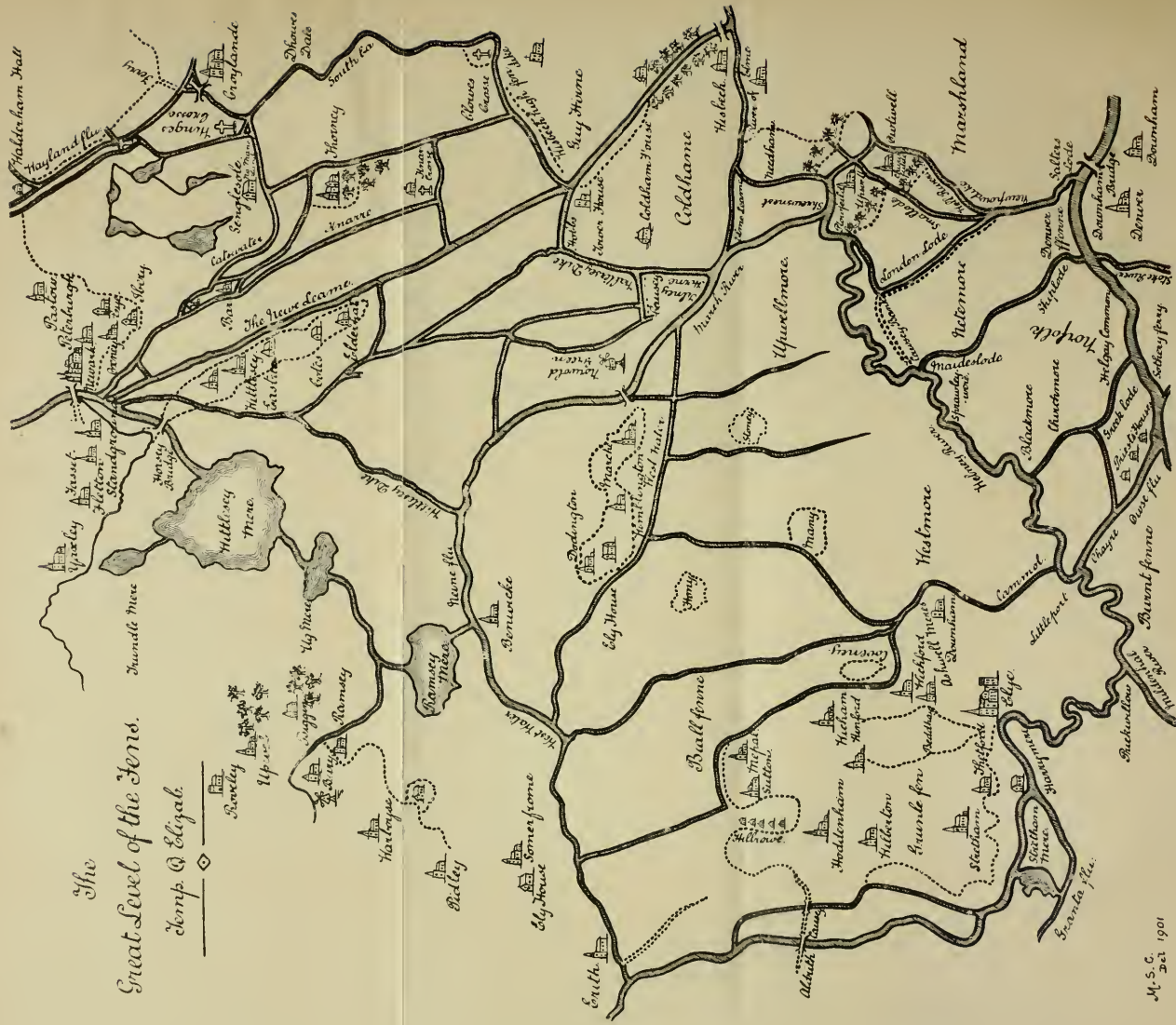
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FENLAND NOTES & QUERIES.

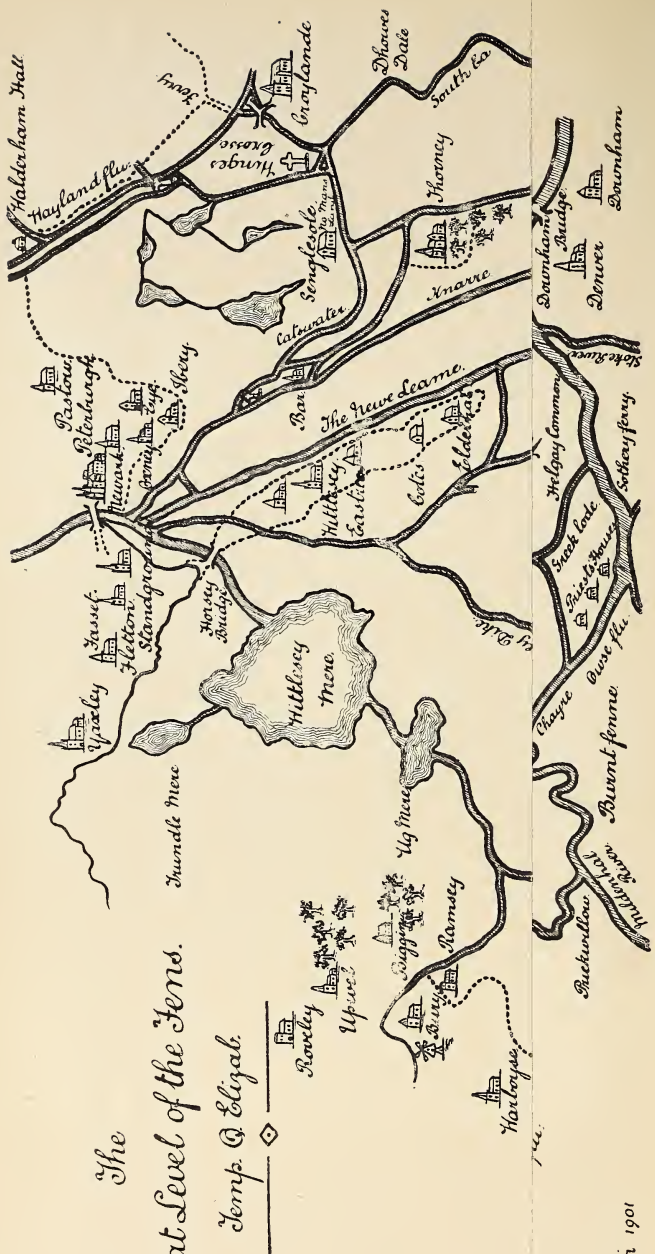
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The  
Great Level of the Fens.  
Comp. & Elyab.



The  
Great Level of the Fens.

Temp. Q. Elizab.

M. S. C.  
Dec 1901

# FENLAND NOTES & QUERIES.

**A Quarterly Antiquarian Journal**

**FOR THE FENLAND,**

**IN THE COUNTIES OF HUNTINGDON, CAMBRIDGE,  
LINCOLN, NORTHAMPTON, NORFOLK,  
AND SUFFOLK.**

EDITED BY THE

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Holy Trinity Vicarage, Rotherhithe, London, S.E.

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## Illustrations.

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## Errata.

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Page 38, line 4; for *Acts* read *Act*.

Page 71, line 28; for on to March read one to March.

Page 102, line 13; for *Waldersby* read *Waldersey*.

Page 134, line 16; for *L'Acadamie* read *L'Académie*.

Page 170, line 5 from bottom; for *S<sup>t</sup> John Wats* read *S<sup>r</sup> John Wats*.

Page 224, line 9; after *de Bassingbourne* insert *Sir Alan Fraunceys*.

Page 248, line 9 of charter; for *idem* read *iidem*.

Page 329, last line; for *S. Peter le Poor* read *S. Peter-le-Poer*.

Page 345, last line but two; for *32,668<sup>ac</sup>* read *312,668<sup>ac</sup>*.

Page 353, line 22; for *Plantaganet* read *Plantagenet*.





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# FENLAND

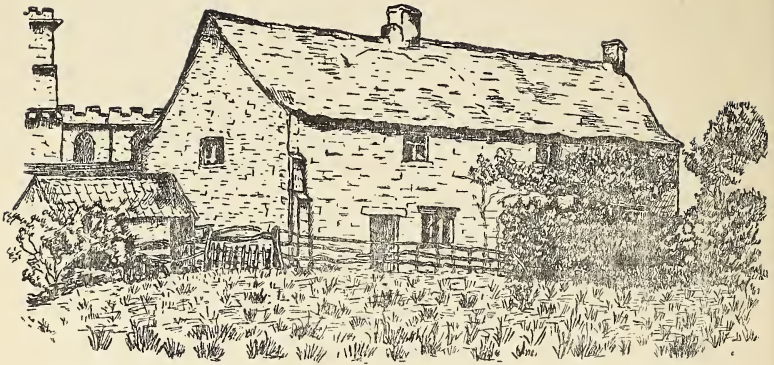
## NOTES & QUERIES.

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868.—**Church Hall, Maxey.**—It is probable that in most country villages, if diligent search were made, many mediæval remains might be discovered hidden away from sight. Some would be found in the back premises of farm-houses or cottages, some in the upper rooms, some in secluded lanes. And of such ancient buildings, or fragments of buildings, not all are immediately recognised as being of any particular interest, except by those whose studies or taste have given them an eye for such objects.

Adjoining the south wall of the churchyard at Maxey is a building once a single house, now divided into three cottages. This has always gone by the name of Church Hall. From two inscriptions, one on a table monument in the churchyard, dated 1608, and one on a floor-stone in the Lady-chapel, dated 1736, which shew that Church Hall was once the residence of persons of some position and consideration, it has been supposed that formerly there was a large house, or mansion, near the spot, long ago destroyed; and that the modest residences still existing were attached to it as houses for gardeners, or grooms, or other labourers. But it is quite clear that the existing building is itself the original Church Hall. We give on next page a view of it, prepared from a photograph taken in September last by Mr. H. R. Sweeting.



Church Hall was, in point of fact, the ancient parsonage of Maxey ; and as such it is described in old deeds. This does not mean the house of the Vicar, but the house belonging to the rectorial lands, and let with them, and with the Rector's tithes. Substantial farmers and yeomen accordingly occupied it. And it is interesting to see the sort of house that was considered sufficient for such men three hundred years ago.

In this house, in 1608, lived Thomas Smyth. It was he who erected the table monument above mentioned (the inscription on which will be given later) on 2 July in that year. His will is dated 12 Aug., and was proved 10 Sep. From his will one gathers that he was a man of substance ; and his father was still alive. He describes himself as a yeoman. In noting the value of his estate, and the bequests in money, we may probably multiply by 8 at least to represent the present equivalents. He left £10 to the poor of the parish. He left legacies in money to relatives and servants amounting in all to upwards of £170. He owned a large quantity of farming stock, and held several leases, and among them the lease of the parsonage (sometimes called in the will the rectory) of Maxey, and he directs his father, to whom he leaves the lease of the parsonage for 16 years (which seems to be the time of his son's nonage), to pay the rent to the Dean and Chapter, and to do "all such necessary reparations as shall be needful from time to time of

the said parsonage and houses thereunto belonging." The father also is to enter into a bond of £200 to educate the testator's son "at the grammar school" (no doubt that at Peterborough) till the age of 14; and then to cause him to be sent to the University of Cambridge till he is 21, and to allow him while there £20 a year.

A man who would make such a will may fairly be described as a man of some substance: his property would apparently be equal to £8000 or £9000 at the present time. A gentleman now, who had £300 a year of his own, would hardly be content to live in Church Hall.

The inscription on the table monument erected by this Thomas Smyth is not quite perfect. A portion of stone on each side is lost, but the two ends are perfect. That he was a man of education is clear from this being the only inscription in Latin remaining in the churchyard. At the east end is this:—THOMAS . SMYTH . DE . CHVRCH HALL . HOC . FIERI . FECIT . SECVNDO . DIE . IVLI . ANNO . DOM . 1608. At the west is this:—REBECCA . ET . MARIA . SMYTH . SVB . HOC . SIMVL . DORMIVNT. On the north side there are four lines of lettering; but the first letter only of each of the first three lines is left, the slab that was originally adjoining being lost. It looks as if, when complete, the whole formed two hexameter lines: and the fragment remaining of the second line is very similar to a familiar passage in Ovid. As here printed, the letters in capitals are those still in existence; the letters in smaller type are conjectural restorations. For these I am indebted to the Rev. C. F. Hardy, of Denstone College.

Q	vi . subter	LATI	TANT . VIVENT
T	rans . secla . v	IROR	VM . NEC .
P	oterit . vit	AM . P	EREDAX .
	abole	RE . VE	TVSTAs .

What is left on the south side is insufficient to suggest any complete sentence.

It is to be noted that Thomas Smyth himself does not appear to have been interred beneath this monument. There is no record of his death on it, nor in the registers of the parish is there any mention of his burial.

The stone in the church that mentions the house is to this effect:—Here Lyes Interr'd the Body of M<sup>rs</sup>. Anna Maria Austin Relict of Charles Stanford of Church Hall Gent and late wife of the Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Richard Austin Rector of West Deeping who departed this life the 10 day of August in the year of our Lord 1736 Aged 63 years.

Charles Stanford, the first husband, died (as appears from another stone) on 11 July, 1701, in his 29th year.

Any doubt as to the identity of Church Hall and the old Parsonage has been completely set at rest by my discovery, at the Lambeth Palace Library, of a description of the premises in 1649. It is found in the Parliamentary Surveys (Vol. 14, p. 75), and forms part of "A Survey of the Rectorie or Parsonage of Maxey with the Rights Members and appurtenances thereof Scituate lyinge and beinge within the County of Northampton late belonginge to the late Deane and Chapter of the Cathedrall Church of Borowe St Pet<sup>r</sup>. al<sup>s</sup> Peterburrow." It is dated October, 1649; and the Survey was made in virtue of a Commission granted under the Act for the abolishing of Deans, Deans and Chapters, &c.

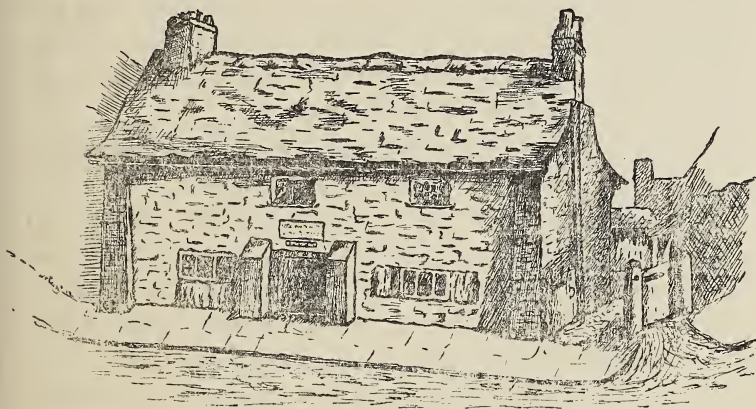
The words describing the buildings of the rectory are these:—  
 "One Messuage or Tennement Scytuate in Maxey aforesaid being built with stone and Covered with Slate Consisting of one Hall one parlo<sup>r</sup>: one Kitchin fower Chambers one slated barne of 7 bayes one Malthouse a Kilne one hay barne two yards one Orchard and Garden in all conteyninge by estimacon

A                    R  
 01 — 02 —    iiij<sup>li</sup>."

A glance at the view of Church Hall will be sufficient to see that it is the house here described. The hall, kitchen, and parlour are the same as ever, except that they now form



the keeping rooms of three separate tenements : and there are now three doors, instead of one only, or at most two. The four chambers above are clearly to be traced. The slated barn, kiln, malthouse, and haybarn, have all disappeared. The house itself is what would have been called a house of three bays. For the purposes of comparison we give also a view, from a

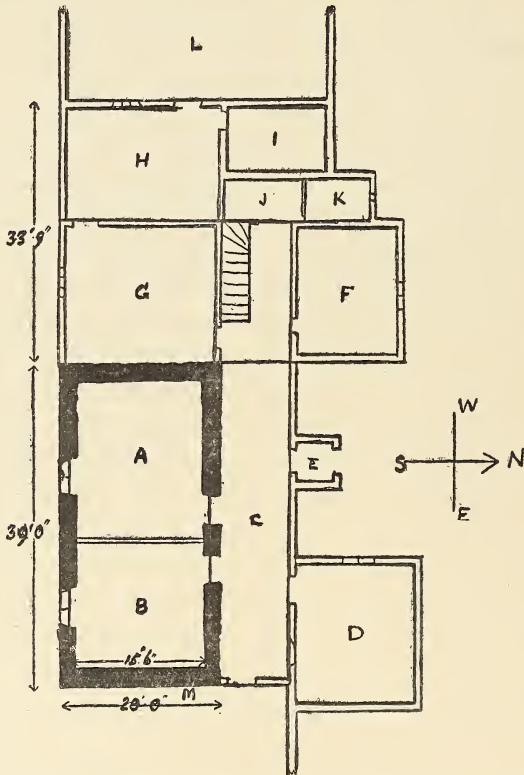


drawing by Miss Caster, of the old vicarage house of S. John's parish, Peterborough. This house, now a small inn, has been mentioned in Art. 796, Vol. IV., pp. 218, 221. This was a house of two bays. There has recently been a paper in *Notes and Queries*\* upon the precise meaning to be attached to the expression "bays" of a house. Strictly speaking the bay was a measure of area, and contained 240 square feet. So that a cottage containing a single room on the ground floor, and measuring 12ft. by 20ft., would be a house of one bay. In practice one or two feet more each way might be allowed. This Church Hall is about 69 feet long, and slightly more than 12 feet deep. The bay was the unit not only for taxing purposes, but for agrarian rights. The barn of seven bays, spoken of in the above survey, must have been a considerable building, measuring probably 10 yards by 20 yards. It may be added, as proving the substantial position of the yeoman who

\* By Mr. S. O. Addy, 9th S. v. 349.

lived at Church Hall, that while the reserved rent paid to the Dean and Chapter was only £13 6s. 8d., the lands are said to have been worth, "over and above the said sum," £81 10s. 4d. a year.

Church Hall remains almost the same as ever. But in the parish there are also the remains of the original vicarage : and



these might very easily escape notice. The whole of the outer walls of the præ-reformation priest's house are incorporated into the modern vicarage. This old house was one of two bays:\* though rather larger than the strict area for two bays, as it contained 780 square feet: but the internal

\* In 1724 the vicarage house of Deeping S. James, co. Linc., is said to have consisted of two bays of buildings. See Art. 727.

measurements give about 500 square feet. There were only two rooms on the ground floor, a parlour and a kitchen: and there were, presumably, three chambers above. The plan on the preceding page shews the gradual extension of the house so as to fit it in course of time for the requirements of a married man with a family. The part printed in thick black is the old priest's house. The walls are 2ft. 3in. thick. A lean-to passage was constructed, forming an entrance hall, so that the front door might not open into one of the keeping rooms. Kitchen and other offices were by degrees added. A set of small rooms was constructed in the roof, forming a third story. When I came to the living these upper rooms were only 6ft. 4in. high. The outer walls were raised during the alterations made in 1881, so as to give these rooms greater height; the fact that the whole roof had to be taken off and rebuilt giving a special opportunity for this improvement. At the same time a study was built. There had been none before. The house has had some strange vicissitudes. At one time it was used as the poor-house of the parish. At another it was let out in tenements to labourers, and the garrets to a farmer to use as a granary. I believe the house was greatly improved and made suitable for the dwelling of a resident curate by the Rev. Joseph Stephen Pratt (Vicar, 1817-1831). He held also the living of S. John's, Peterborough, and was Canon of the Cathedral. He never lived here. His predecessor was Precentor of Peterborough; and used to ride over on Sundays. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries some of the Vicars belonged to the yeoman class; and sometimes they, or members of their families, also farmed the rectory lands. In the lease of the lands the right of presentation to the vicarage was often included.

The following is an explanation of the letters on the plan:—

(A) Drawing Room. (B) Dining Room. (C) Entrance Hall. (D) Study; 1881. (E) Porch. (F) Larder. (G) Kitchen.

(H) Back Kitchen. (I) Coal Cellar. (J) Pantry. (K) Dairy. (L) Yard. (M) Blocked doorway: possibly original entrance to house.

Remains of an old window can be seen on the south side. It is of the same character as the present windows at Church Hall. ED.

**869.—Wills of Irby Family.**—These abstracts of wills of members of the Irby family of Boston have been made by Mr. W. E. Foster, F.S.A., of Aldershot. All the wills were proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury (P.C.C.), and are now in the Principal Probate Registry at Somerset House.

Thomas Irby, of Thetford, co. Norfolk. Dated 20 April, 1504; proved 18 Feb., 1505. P.C.C., 26 Hodgson.

If I die at Thetford to be buried "at the Monkes of our Blessed Lady" by side of Johane my wife. To prior and convent for my dirige and mass, 6s. 8d. To every priest, being a monk, to pray for my soul 4d. To every novice 2d. A Gregory's trental to be said for my soul. A lawful secular priest to pray for one year for souls of myself, my father William Irby, my mother Margaret Irby, my wife Johane, all my children, "and all the soules which I am bound and in debt to pray for," and to have eight marks. To high altar or parson of S. Andrew's 20d. To parson of S. Peter's 12d. Effelyn my present wife to have my Inn called the Sun and the Rose in Thetford; also messuage I bought of Thomas Garland on the north side of the Rose, and that I bought of Margaret Weiscmoy on the south; also messuage I bought of Edmund Balle, the butcher; also my saffron yard; also 2 acres of land in Kyncrestone field; also my copyhold meadow which pays 2s. a year to the prior of the monks, and also 12d. at every alienation: my wife to have all these for her life. After her death all to be sold by exors. and money to be disposed "in alms deds and in deds of charitee for the welth of my soule and all my frendes soules." Also for the same purpose to be sold my tenements in Thetford lately belonging to Sir John Segrave, priest, to Robert Wayle, and to John Halwykk, and sundry pieces of land. Also for the same purpose to be sold all my lands, rents, tenements, reversions, and services, in the county of Lincoln. My litle tenement in Norton to be sold and proceeds to be devoted in recompensation of the duties of the gilds there, and the surplus to the church of Norton to pray for my soul. My patent which I have of the priory of Thetford "by convent rule" if I die to be delivered to the convent on condition that if I survive the term thereof that I have it for my life by another patent. Residue to wife Effelyn. Exors., my wife and Master Frauncees Maundeford. Supervisor, Master John Irby my brother.

Efteline Irby, of Thetford, co. Norfolk, Widow. Not dated; proved 30 July, 1505. P.C.C., 35 Holgrave.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Peter "by myn hosband." To high altar 3s. 4d. "A grave stone convenient and able to leyn upon my husband and me." Anything of my first husband's will not performed to be paid

"as my goods may extend and fetch." Same for will of second husband, Thomas Irby. To the painting of the "candilbeme" in S. Peter's church 40s. To the new frame of the bells 40s. To same church two new torches worth 10s. To Thomas my eldest son 5 marks. To John my son 10 marks if he will be made a priest; if not, only 5 marks; and then some secular priest to sing for my soul, &c., and to have 8 marks for the year. To Alice my daughter, if she marry John Cole, and if John's father and friends make him worth 100 marks, my place in Thetford called the Rose, and the hangings in the hall. If Alice does not marry John Cole, then the Rose and saffron ground thereto belonging to be sold for good of my soul, &c. To the said Alice sundry household goods. To Our Lady at Walsingham my white Amber beads. To S. Agnes gild 6s. 8d. Thomas my son to have my husband's best gown in part payment of his 5 marks. John my son to have the second best gown and an old sanguine gown. Alice my daughter to have some clothing, my best beads, the gold ring "that I was married with unto my last husband," and three coffers. If Alys does not marry Cole then she is to have 5 marks, and 40s. more on day of marriage. To my son Thomas's wife a "corse gyrdill powdered." To Isabell Stunour some bedding and household goods. Bequests to my sister at Atylbrowe, to her daughter, and to Thomas Steynour. To the monks of Thetford 13s. 4d. To the black friars there 6s. 8d. To the Austin friars there 3s. 4d. To S. Andrew's church 20s. To my brother John Donham (or Denham) at Mildenhall 20s. To his wife a little "gyrdell unharrest." Residue at disposition of exors., Fraunceys Mounderford, and Sir William Ordemor, my curate. Supervisor, my gossip John Kente. Sir William to have 20s.; and John Kente 20s. and a doublet. Witnesses, John Rokewoode, Gent., William Bassynghwayte, Andrew Carter, burgess, and others.

Ambrose Irby, of Moulton, co. Lincoln. Dated 6 June, 1530; proved 10 Feb., 1531. P.C.C., 1 Thrower.

To be buried in church of All Hallows at Moulton. To the curate 3s. 4d. To every altar 12d. To church work 40s. To gild of Our Lady 3s. 4d. To mother church of Lincoln 12d. To Our Lady's work there 12d. To the orphans at house of S. Katheryne's 12d. To church work at Weston 6s. 8d. Masses to be said for souls of myself, my father and mother, Alice my wife, Elizabeth Holland late wife of Thomas Holland, Esq., and for my good friends. Gifts to poor at burial. Thomas my son to pay yearly for 10 years out of profits of lands in Sutterton, Fosdyke, and Alderkirk, 106s. 8d., for a priest to sing for my soul, &c. In default exors. to enter lands and provide a priest to say daily mass at altar of Our Lady in church of Moulton for health of my soul, &c., and for welfare of Mawde my wife, or for her soul's health if deceased. Obit to be kept yearly, and 6s. 8d. to be spent in charity, at cost of my son Thomas and his heirs. In default churchwardens to enter piece of land in Alderkirk called Countertoft. Feoffees to stand seised of my lands in Sutterton, Fosdyke, and Alderkirk, to use of my son Thomas and heirs of his body, with remainder to my daughter Beatrice Irbye and heirs of her body, with remainder to my brother Anthony Irbye, he to find a priest to sing and say divine service for 50 years in Moulton church, and keep obit as aforesaid, or churchwardens to enter, &c. But  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land in Alderkirk and Crabdam, lately purchased of William Brandon and his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Gybon, to go to John Irbye, son of my brother William Irbye, he to pay residue of money unpaid of the purchase, which is 26s. 8d. Mawde my wife to have my place in Moulton called Cokk's place, and all my copyhold and free land in Moulton, for life; with remainder to Beatrice my daughter and heirs of her body; in default of

such heirs to be sold and money spent on buying copes and other ornaments for Moulton church. Exors. to put my son Thomas to school till he is 24, with advice of my brother Anthony Irbye. Exors. to pay my daughter Beatrice on day of her marriage, £40 "so that she be of good disposition and guiding, and ruled by the advice and counsel of myn executors." All household stuff to be equally divided between my wife, son, and daughter. All the silver spoons to be divided in same way; but all other plate equally between son and daughter. To my wife Mawde 20 marks. She to have household stuff that was hers before marriage, 20 cows, 5 work horses, and a plough and cart. My godson Ambrose Irbye, now a monk in Spalding abbey, to have 40s. on the day that he shall sing or say his first mass. To Leonard Irbye, son of my brother Anthony, towards his exhibition at university of Cambridge or elsewhere 100s. To Sir Robert Smyth, son of Thomas Smyth, of Steleton, towards his exhibition at the university 40s. My son Thomas to have "all the rayment that to my back belongeth," except a doublet of red velvet to John Irbye, son of my brother Anthony, and a coat of marble cloth to my servant Alexander Haveloke, the latter also to have a good nag and mare. To Alice Golding, lately my servant, a cow and 4 sheep. To my daughter Beatrice at 24 a girdle harnessed with silver and double gilt, and two pair of coral beads. My sister Alice Irbye to have gown and kirtle of my last wife Alice, and 20s. To every child of my brother Anthony, except Leonard, 20s. To each of 5 children of Gilbert Pynchebecke, Esq., 20s. To Godfrey Bolles, and Margaret Bolles, each 20s. To my son Thomas 200 wethers and 100 ewes "branded with the horse shoe," and 5 mares with cote foles, and my gray stallard. To parson of Spalding 13s. 4d. To convent of monastery there 26s. 8d. for masses "and to be brother and my wife sister of the chapter." Exors., my brother Anthony Irbye, John Bolles, James Bargeyn; to each of them 40s. Residue to exors. to dispose &c. Witnesses, Robert Herbye, William Scarlet, William Stafford, John Grey, Gilbert Otter, Alexander Anlock, and others. James Bargayn, one of the exors., died before probate. The exor. called in the will John Bollis is called in the probate clause James Bolles.

Anthony Irby, of Gosberton, &c., co. Lincoln, Gent. Dated 20 April, 1548, proved 14 Aug., 1548. P.C.C., 11 Populwell.

To be buried in parish church where I die: if at Swyneshead, in S. Andrew's choir, if at Gosberton, in Our Lady's choir: a tomb to be erected. To reparations of Swyneshead church 6s. 8d. For tithes forgotten 1s. 8d. To reparations of Gosberton church 3s. 4d.; of Sutterton 6s. 8d. For tithes forgotten at Surfleet 12d. Wife to have use of plate for life, except malmsey cup and 6 silver spoons to my daughter Roofe Bolles. To said daughter also 6 sheep and a cow. To daughter Dorothy on day of marriage a goblet with cover, one of the salts, and a silver cup for ale, all parcel gilt; after her death to my son John. To my son Leonard a salt with cover and goblet all gilt, after her (my wife's?) decease. To my son Thomas also after her decease a goblet and cover gilt, and 2 little silver cups for ale. Residue (of plate?) at disposal of my wife. To wife 12 milk kine, 1 bull, 100 sheep, cart and plough, 4 best mares, and best road gelding. To son Leonard 5 milk kine, 5 queyes (i.e., heifers) "that were burnt at Maye day last," and 40 ewes. To Godfrey son of John Bolles, after my wife's death, copyhold land in Quadring. To Margaret Bolles, daughter of said John, £5 13s. 4d.; and to all his other children except Godfrey 20s. To my daughter Dorothy £60 at her marriage, to be charged on my lands in Holbech, Moulton, Weston, and Spalding; subject to payment of 13s. 4d. a year, 5s. for a sermon in church where I am buried, and rest to the poor. "The chamber of Dorothy my daughter to be at the

pleasure of her mother, which I pray her may be honest stuff, And if she fortune to die before marriage I wish she be brought honestly to the ground with parcell of the said somme." To my daughter Katherine £40, "so that she be ordered by her Mother in her marriage, and use herself honestly in the meantime." Bequests of a cow, or horse, or mare, and small sums of money, to Mary Irby and all other children of John Irby, to my son Thomas and to each of his children, to every child of William Bennett, to my son Leonard's wife, to Alice his daughter, to Isabell my son Thomas's wife, to my daughter Jane, wife of William Bennett, to William Bennett "the mare that Notkin broke" (no money), to my cousin wife of Nicholas Leighe of Bennington. Bequests also to Nicholas Leighe, to each of his children, to the wife of Edward Bankes, late of Anchester, to Rauf Jolybrand, to each of my godchildren, to my daughter Margaret, wife of Henry Death, to her husband Henry Death "on of my mazers parcel gilte, 1 jack, 1 sallett, and a pair of splints." To Alice my wife for life, then to my son Thomas, all my leases of the Duchess of Suffolk, and of the King, and of Andrew Nowell, Esq., in Gosberton and Surfleet; also leases of pasture called Skultofte in Pinchbeck, and of Pasture called Swylbalocke in Pinchbeck. Wife to have use of household stuff at Swynneshed for life, then to sons John and Leonard. Wife to have lease of parsonage of Gosberton; also Lord's pasture in Sutterton for life, then to son Leonard; also Prior Lathes pasture for life, then to son Thomas. To son Thomas 20 ewes with their lambs, 2 cows, and 2 mares. To master Robert Walpole 20s.; to Richard Ogle, Esq., and to Thomas Holland, each a new riall or 10s. in gold; all for assisting my exors. with good counsel. To vicar of Quadring to pray for me 6s. 8d. To William Betriche 6s. 8d. To Elizabeth Smythe my servant, a quye of 2 years, and to each of my other 2 servants a lamb. Wife to have use of household stuff at Sutterton for life, then to Edmund Irby son of my son Leonard. Wife to have grain and wood. To wife all the cygnets "comynge of swannes mark of the 4 cappes or single ewes for life," then to John my son. To son John 20 ewes, 20 ewe lambs, and 2 of my farm mares. To son Leonard all my books concerning the temporal law. To wife 2 of my best almon ryvetts fully furnished, 2 jacks, 2 salletts, 2 pairs of splints, 2 of my best halberts, one bow, and a sheaf of arrows. Residue of the said harness among my three sons, John to have first choice. Residue of chattels to wife to be disposed of in deeds of charity and among her children and mine. Exors., my wife Alice, my sons John and Thomas, each to have 40s. Supervisors, my son Leonard, and son-in-law John Bolles. My wife to pay Mr. Richard Darrington £30 for my son Leonard's debt. Witnesses, Sir Roger, parish clerk (i.e., the parson), Thomas Etnal, Christopher Diconson, and others. The testator also disposes of his manor, lands, &c., in Lincolnshire, at Leyborne, Reston, Cawthorpe, Holbech, Moulton, Weston, Spalding, Gosberton, Surfleet, Quadring, Bicker, Swynneshed, Wigtoft, Sutterton, Algarkirk, Fosdike, and elsewhere; and recites several deeds and settlements. Son John to have manor of Leyburne in tail male. Wife, "in recompence thereof" to have free lands in Gosberton and Surfleet, to settle them on son John in tail male. Richard Bennett to have an annuity of 20s. Son Thomas to have lands at Holbech (after 4 years, and after payment of Dorothy's marriage portion of £50), to provide during his life a sermon to be preached (as before mentioned) "in which the preacher shall not only make mention of my death, and desire the people to pray for me, but also to exhort the audience to live well towards God, and to die willingly." Remainder to heirs of body of son Thomas, then to his right heirs. After Dorothy's marriage portion is levied, wife to have lands at Holbech (but *qy.* previous disposition?), Moulton, and Spalding, for life, towards bringing up of Edmund Irby son of my son Lawrence, with conditions as to sermon, &c. Remainder to said Edmund Irby and his heirs. Son Leonard and Anne

his wife to have lands in Wigtoft, Sutterton, and Algarkirk, according to deed. Wife to have message at Sutterton for life, according to deed, remainder to son Leonard and others. Wife to have lands at Swinneshead and Fenhouse, in parish of Swinneshead, according to deed, remainder to son John. Wife to have for life lands in Bicker and Fenhouse "whereof Leonard Irby my son takes the rent at my sufferance," remainder to son John and heirs male of his body, then to son Leonard and heirs male of his body, then to my own right heirs. Wife to have copyhold lands in Gosberton and Quadring. Son Leonard and Anne his wife to have copyhold lands "of my Lord of Sussex" in Sutterton, to them and heirs of Leonard. My copyholds in Gulton have been surrendered to the use of my will. Wife to have lands in Swineshead and Bicker bought from Edward Overton, and lands in Bicker in tenure of John Atkinson, and lands in Wigtoft in tenure of Cressey, for life, remainder to sons John, Leonard, and Thomas, and the heirs male of their bodies, in succession.

### 870.—The Gentlemen's Society of Peterborough (864).

—From the earliest Minute Book of this Society, described in the article referred to above, we select several entries which seem to be of general interest.

Feb: 3. 1730/1.

Communicated to this Society by Mr. Marshall Secretary, that He has taken the following Inscription from two ancient pieces of stone work, fix't into that part of the West front of the Bishop's palace in Peterborough, w<sup>ch</sup>. stands nearest the Cathedral church. They are carv'd in large projecting letters upon two separate stones, cut in the form of an Escutcheon and then put (as it were) into a square frame of stone, w<sup>th</sup>. scroll work round it. The letters seem to make up this short pious sentence: *Laudetur Dominus* except some shou'd chuse rather to read it *Laus detur Domino* (the sense in both cases the same). The stone, w<sup>ch</sup>. has the inscription *Laudetur* or *Laus detur* upon it, stood originally the first, *i.e.* nearest the Cathedral church at about 12 or 18 foot distance from the other till about four months ago, the present Bishop (Dr. Robert Clavering) making very considerable alterations in his palace, had some part of the West front (w<sup>ch</sup>. extended most to the northward and was very ruinous) entirely taken down. In this demolish'd part stood the first stone, w<sup>ch</sup>. the Ignorant workmen, not knowing it had any relation to the second, remov'd to ano<sup>r</sup>. place and set it up (without the square frame) over the grand arch of the Piazza, the second stone remains where it was first put up, whole and entire w<sup>th</sup> it's square frame.

A sketch accompanies this entry. It is not noted that on the second stone is carved, beneath the lettering, a Tudor rose. The last word cannot possibly be either *Dominus* or *Domino*; it is quite clearly *Dominum*. And the letters on the other stone are almost certainly *laudet*. These two stones are probably therefore the two remaining of four; and on the other two in similar characters were inscribed *Omnis* and *Spiritus*. These four words from the last verse of the psalter, "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord." These



very words are carved over the arch leading from the south choir aisle of the cathedral to the new building: and the same man, probably Abbot Kirkton, who selected this verse for a conspicuous position in the church, may well have placed it also upon the alterations he made at his own house.\*

June 9. 1731

By an Order of this Society, Delivered this day into the hands and custody of the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Benjamin Ray One of the Five pieces of cast brass, supposed to be used by the ancient Romans in setting their toys when they went an hunting. (Vid. Min. of Ap. 21. 1731.) to be by him presented in the name of this Society to our Sister Society at Spalding in Lincolnshire.

The minute of 21 April referred to says that Mr. White Kennett, Prebendary of Peterborough, presented to the Society five pieces of cast brass which had been dug up in the common fields of Eye "which was formerly part of the great forest of Arundel." The head of a Roman javelin, used in hunting the wild boar, had been found at the same place.

On 15 March, 1732, is an account of the finding of a remarkable seal bearing the arms of Cantelupe, "in Feb. 1731-2, by a poor labourer, as he was digging up the rubbish of an old wall on the south side of the Bp's palace." It was of silver, "not the least bruis'd or defac'd"; and it weighed about 3s. 2d. sterling. It remained in the possession of the Bishop. A fortnight later is given an ingenious letter from Maurice Johnson, Esq., Jun., on the subject.†

Sep<sup>r</sup>. 13. 1732. The President in y<sup>e</sup> Chair and nine other Members. The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr Smyth introduced one Mr. Sol. Fretest who styles himself late Governor of Palestine, a person well skyl'd in y<sup>e</sup>. SS. of y<sup>e</sup> Old Testament, and in Rabinal Learning, and in y<sup>e</sup>. Hebrew and Chaldee tongues, a specimen of his writing was desired of him, and he wrote underneath this Testimony of his being here at this Society 1732. [4 lines in Hebrew, 2 being short.] He brought ample Testimonies along with him of being y<sup>e</sup>. person he assum'd, but as I had y<sup>e</sup>. Opportunity of a whole days Conversation with him at my own House, It gave me some Suspicion of his Veracity. He said he was of y<sup>e</sup>. greek Church, and yet cou'd neither read nor understand y<sup>e</sup>. Greek Testament, nor St. Chrysostoms nor Basils Liturgy. He knew nothing of y<sup>e</sup>. Syriac and Arabeck Languages, and told me y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. vulgar tongue of Palestine was Chaldee, tho' in his common way of writing he made use of Characters somewhat like y<sup>e</sup>. Turkish Arabeck, as may be seen in y<sup>e</sup>. Column of Hon: Members where he wrote his own name.

\* I do not remember to have seen these stones, and do not know if they are still in existence.—Ed.

† We may be able to refer to this letter on a later occasion.

As has been indicated in the former article (Vol. IV., p. 389) this person signed the list of Honorary Members; and he gave "a specimen of his writing" in Hebrew, and in some other Eastern characters. But he seems never to have been actually proposed, much less elected, an Honorary Member.

Novr. 22. 1732

The secretary propos'd y<sup>t</sup>. as y<sup>e</sup>. time of Prayer is alter'd in y<sup>e</sup>. afternoon from 4 to 3, y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. Society sh<sup>d</sup>. meet together for y<sup>e</sup> winter Season immediately after Prayers.

Memorandum Feb. y<sup>e</sup> 1 and 8 [1733] On account of y<sup>e</sup> Indisposition of many of o<sup>r</sup>. members, by y<sup>e</sup>. Epidemical Distemper, there was no Society held.

The usual hour for meetings in the summer was at 6 o'clock.

May 23 [1733].

Mr. John Clement comunicated to y<sup>e</sup>. Society his Collection of several remarkable Epitaphs ancient and modern in y<sup>e</sup>. Minster Church and Churchyard of this City, not taken notice of by Gunton, Willis, &c.

A note in pencil, in margin, adds "Lord Melville has this."

Novr. 14. 1733

Mr John Clement presented y<sup>e</sup>. Society with his REPERTORIUM or Survey of this Cathedral, containing all the inscriptions omitted by Gunton and Willis in their Histories of this Church with a continuation down to this present year 1733 in 24 Pages Quarto wrote in a fair hand, and taken with great exactness.

Octr. 1. 1735

The Society room, in w<sup>ch</sup>. we meet adjoining to y<sup>e</sup> school being found to be too damp for our books and papers &c., and several of y<sup>e</sup>. members complayning of its being very cold it was proposed y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup> Bishop be applyd to for y<sup>e</sup> room over y<sup>e</sup> gate-way w<sup>ch</sup> is very large and commodious: and y<sup>t</sup> Dr. Robinson, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Neve be desir'd to wait upon his Lordship for his consent and leave to fit up y<sup>t</sup> Room for our Society.

Novr. 26. 1735.

The Secretary comunicated another MS. wrote in a very fair hand and neatly illumined upon velom in 12<sup>o</sup>. entitled *Summa Reymundi*, in y<sup>e</sup>. top of y<sup>e</sup>. first page is written Liber Croylandie, so y<sup>t</sup> I suppose it formerly. belong'd to y<sup>t</sup>. Monastery. There is an ample Alphabetical Index at y<sup>e</sup> end of y<sup>e</sup>. book; and in another hand in y<sup>e</sup>. last page is Johes Oldfeild de Spalding.

Jan. 8. (1735/6)

No Society on account of y<sup>e</sup> violent Storm.

Feb. 4. 1736

Mr. Clement presented y<sup>e</sup>. Society with a small cup made of y<sup>e</sup>. Royal Oak, w<sup>ch</sup>. he lately brought out of Staffordshire.

June 30. 1736.

This evening one Dr. Heighington having a publick consort in y<sup>e</sup> School, he himself playing upon y<sup>e</sup>. harpsicord very finely, his wife and son singing very agreeably several Opera songs and others, being assisted also by y<sup>e</sup>. Instruments of 3 or 4 Gent. of y<sup>e</sup>. Town: made his performance very entertaining to a great Number of Ladies and Gentlemen. He and his

wife sung a Duet of his own composition, Donec gratus eram &c (Hor. L. iii. Ode 9) w<sup>ch</sup>. was well approv'd by y<sup>e</sup> best judges. The Doors betwixt y<sup>e</sup> School and Society room were thrown open so y<sup>t</sup> we had y<sup>e</sup> pleasure of y<sup>e</sup> Musical voices, we treated y<sup>e</sup> Ladies with red and white wine, and gave Mas<sup>r</sup>. Heighington ten shillings for his performance. When y<sup>e</sup>. consort was over y<sup>e</sup>. Dr. came into y<sup>e</sup>. Society room and stay'd with us about an hour, and entertain'd us with several whimsical songs of his own composing, himself singing one part and playing another upon y<sup>e</sup> Fiddle at y<sup>e</sup> same time, w<sup>ch</sup>. is very difficult to do. He is Organist at Yarmouth, and has followed this method of travailing in y<sup>e</sup>. summer time for above 20 years.

Aug. 11. 1736

It was proposed by Dr. Balguy y<sup>t</sup>. a public Anniversary of y<sup>e</sup>. Institution of y<sup>e</sup>. Society be kept some day this year, and it was ordered y<sup>t</sup>. this proposal be enter'd in y<sup>e</sup>. Minutes, and to be ballotted y<sup>e</sup>. next meeting. Order'd y<sup>t</sup>. Notice be given to y<sup>e</sup>. regular members to attend y<sup>e</sup>. next Wednesday.

Aug. 18. 1736

The proposal for an Anniversary was ballotted, nine members being present, and carried by a very great majority. Ordered y<sup>t</sup> 16 Ordinaries at 2<sup>s</sup>. be bespoke at y<sup>e</sup>. Talbot for Wednesday y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup>. of Sep<sup>r</sup> next, and y<sup>t</sup>. Notice be given hereof to all y<sup>e</sup>. regular Members, and y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. honourary Members in y<sup>e</sup>. neighbourhood be invited.

Sep<sup>r</sup>. 8. 1736

This being y<sup>e</sup>. day appointed by order of y<sup>e</sup>. S. for its Anniversary, The President and sixteen other Regular Members met at the Musæum immediately after morning Prayer at y<sup>e</sup>. Minster was over. At w<sup>ch</sup>. time and place we proceeded to y<sup>e</sup>. Election of New Officers, but y<sup>e</sup>. Members in general were pleas'd to desire y<sup>e</sup>. old ones to be continued and accordingly John Rowell Esq<sup>r</sup>. was rechosen President; The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Neve Secretary: and the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Marshall Treasurer for y<sup>e</sup>. year ensueing. Dr. Balguy and Mr. Cox were desir'd to number and Catalogue our Curiosities and set them in proper order. The Books, Pamphlets and prints were call'd over, y<sup>e</sup> Treasurer's Accounts Examin'd and pass'd. At one a clock we went to y<sup>e</sup> Talbot where an Elegant Entertainment was provided for us at y<sup>e</sup>. Expense of y<sup>e</sup>. S. 19 Members present. The Evening was concluded about 8 a clock with a Consort of Musick and all things conducted with y<sup>e</sup>. greatest order and Unanimity.

Mar. 16. 1737

Ordered y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. larger press next y<sup>e</sup> School from whence Mr. Bradfield remov'd his books, be fitted up with shelves and lin'd upon y<sup>e</sup>. back for y<sup>e</sup>. books belonging to y<sup>e</sup>. Society.

Apr. 6. 1737.

The Drawers being finished for y<sup>e</sup> reception of our Curiosities, they were set in order by Dr. Balguy and Mr. Marshall.

Apr. 13. 1737.

The paper of Common Sense dwindling into politics, w<sup>ch</sup>. is contrary to our 8<sup>th</sup>. Article of Rules and orders, it was agreed to receive it no more into our Society.

May 11. 1737

Mr. Spencer was by ballot admitted, and desir'd to take care of y<sup>e</sup>. Books and other things belonging to y<sup>e</sup>. Society in y<sup>e</sup>. room of Mr. Paly his predecessor in y<sup>e</sup>. School and y<sup>t</sup>. he enter down all books and pamphlets given unto or bought by y<sup>e</sup>. Society, with y<sup>e</sup>. names of y<sup>e</sup>. Donor and borrower.

July 20. 1737

Order'd yt. ye. chimney be alter'd to prevent its smoaking and yt shelves and doors be put over ye. fire place for ye. conveniency of keeping things dry.

Jan. 11. 1738.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Edw<sup>d</sup>. Wortley Esq<sup>r</sup>. V.P. and nine other members. The V.P. was pleas'd to take ye. Gent: of ye. Soc: to ye. Angel and to treat them with ye. sight of Mr. Topham ye. Strong mans performances, from whence were brought as a present to ye. Society a large pewter dish of ye. hard metal roll'd up, and two large pokers one of w<sup>ch</sup>. he bent round his neck, ye larger by striking it upon ye. muscles of his naked arm.

On Apr. 12. 1731 it was decided by ballot "by a majority of Balls" that every regular member within three months after his admission should make a present to the Society of a guinea value at least.

What was the building, or room, known as "the Musæum," mentioned in the notice of the Anniversary as the place where the Members met?

**871.—Stableforth Family.**—Can any correspondent tell me the name of any parishes in which members of this family were resident, at the end of the seventeenth century, or at the commencement of the eighteenth?

In November, 1711, Peter Stableforth married Jane Brown, at Pinchbeck, co. Linc.; and he died at the same place in June, 1717. I wish to ascertain where he lived before marriage. Any information about the family would be welcome.

J.H.S.

**872.—Phonetic Spelling.**—Readers of ancient documents, such as are from time to time transcribed and published in this magazine, sometimes find that the scrupulous retention of errors in spelling becomes tiresome, and indeed occasionally unintelligible. The conscientious transcriber, however, is bound to copy his manuscript *verbatim et literatim*. Here are some of the variations of the word "bailiff," which are found in the Vestry Books of the parish of Glinton, between the years 1659 and 1799. Baile, bailie, bailief, bailif, bailife, bailiff, bailley, baily, baleff, baley, balie, balif, balife, baliff, balliff, balye, bayle, bayley, baylife, bayliff, bayliffe, bayly, bealey.

R.C.F.

**873.—Bishop Delaber's Corrody.**—John Delaber, or de la Bere, formerly a monk of the monastery of Peterborough, Rector of Oundle in 1443, nominated Dean of Wells in 1446, but not installed, was promoted to the bishopric of S. David's by papal bull dated 15 Sept., 1447. He acted as great Almoner to King Henry VI. In 1456 his infirmity prevented him from attending in Parliament; and in 1461 compelled him to resign the bishopric.\*

Gunton relates that the Bishop obtained from the monastery a grant of a pension for life of £32, issuing out of the manor of Kettering, in consideration of loans forgiven. The Bishop's desire to end his days in the place he loved so much, doubtless prompted him to secure this corrody in 1454, the grant of which is entered in the register of Abbot Ashton. † L.G.

To all chrysten men to whom the present wrytyng shall come Richard by the sufferance of God Abbat and the convent of Petriburg in coy of Northp<sup>n</sup>. greting in God and helthe everlasting Know ye that for the grete and noble benefyts and gettes now in special done and geven unto us by the reverent Fadir in God John Delaber Byshop of Seynt Davyd that is to say of his myter, crosse, dalmatykes, sandals and sabatyns, of his gloves and of his messe-boke We of our fre wylle and common assent graunt and by this present wrytyng conferme that we the said Abbat and convent shall kepe after the dethe of the seyd John Bysshop by us and our successors for evermore in our saide monasterye for the soules of the sayd Bysshop of his fadyr and moder of his ffrendes and such in special as he ys bound and held to pray for a solemn obitt once by yer And moreover we graunt by this present wrytyng and conferme to the seyd John Bysshop for all terme of his lyff his loggyng and a servent of the white chambre of the wythdrawle of the chapell and wardropes and of all housyng being within the dore at the one end of the cloyster stayr within our said monasterye, of the wyne caler &c. Geven in our Chapter house the xvi daye of Aprill the yere of King Henry the VI. after the conquest xxxii.

**874.—The Ward of Rockingham.**—William the Conqueror reduced the Church lands which were held in frank almonage to Knight's fees and Baronage: he restored castles in his forests, and imposed on the tenants of the neighbouring manors the service of castleward, that was, to watch and ward the King's castle in time of war. King William dealt gently with the religious: to pray for his success in war, and guard

\* The royal pardon is dated 6 Feb., 1461. Pat. 29, Henry VI., m. 6.

† Abbot Ashton's register is at Peterborough. Possibly Abbot Ramsey's register is in the same volume. Abbot Kirton's register is at Burghley. Those of Abbots Woodford, Godfrey, Boothby, Gyenge, and Deeping are at the British Museum.

his castles when the soldiers were away, was enough. His successor resolved that "Our abbeys and our priories shall pay This expedition's charge."

The Abbot of Burgh S. Peter held many a manor near Rockingham. The "shire," as the open field which lies between the town and the forest is called, was not under culture when the Castle was built. That was before the year 1083, when Domesday\* was compiled. King John replaced the Conqueror's stronghold by durable stone buildings with towered gateways, and turreted walls, loopholed and embattled. Of these the sturdy bastions of the eastern gateway seem imperishable: but without constant supervision and reparation the tooth of time and weather had ere this laid them low. At a view of the Castle, taken A.D. 1250, after the death of the constable Geoffrey Folkingham, the dripstones and flooring of the look-out house,† and one of the doors of the gaol, were wanting. "Item de nova parte muri ex parte aquilonari usque ad magnam portam in parte dekernelatus est murus, et duoturelli dekernelati, et deest totum apparatus et totus murus in parte interiori decasus est ita quod nemo potest ire super aluras, et si necesse esset non possit haberi defensus propter illum defectum." Nothing was sound. The barbican and the two bridges were unsafe; the chapel roof was not weather-proof; the gable of the King's coalhouse had fallen. These defects were remedied, and for the next two centuries the fabric of the castle was maintained. The Plantagenets sojourned there for the sake of the hunting in Rockingham Forest, which embraced the Nesse of Burgh until 1214, when King John, "out of reverence for blessed Oswald King and Martyr, and for the salvation of his soul, and of the souls of his predecessors and successors, and for 1220 marcs to be paid unto our Exchequer," by his charter royal disafforested all lands and tenements of the Abbot of Burgh which lay between the rivers Nene and Welland and the great highway which extends

\* Wasta erat, quando Rex Willelmus jussit ibi castellum fieri.—Domesday.

† Domus speculatoris.—Inquis. post mort. 34 Henry III., m. 49.

from Wansford as far as Stupendiston outside the town of Stamford.\* These are not the bounds of the hundred of Nassaburgh, which is coextensive with the Liberty; and the forest is described as extending from Stamford bridge to Oxendon bridge.†

In 1489 the Abbot of Peterborough was summoned to do his service of castleward at Rockingham in the following form.‡

Ricardus dei gratia  
Rex Anglie et Francie  
et dominus Hibernie  
dilecto sibi in Christo

Breve domini  
Regis Abbati de  
Burgo transmissum  
pro servicio  
faciendo.

Abbati de Burgo Sancti Petri  
salutem Cum vos certa maneria terras et tenementa teneatis in comitatu Northantonensi et alibi per servicia custodiendi quandam Wardam Castri de Rokyngham in tempore guerre aut quum opus id exigit Vobis mandamus quod servitium predictum ratione tenure vestre predicte faciatis prout alii tenentes maneriorum terrarum et tenementorum predictorum ante hec tempora in casu consimili facere debuerunt et consueverunt. Et hoc sub incumbente periculo nullatenus omittatis. Teste Edvardo Duce Eboracensi Custode Anglie apud villam de Sancto Albano Decimo die Julii anno regni nostri xxiiij<sup>o</sup>.

*In English:—*

Richard by the grace  
of God King of England  
and France and Lord of  
Ireland to his beloved in  
Christ, the abbot of Burgh

Brief of the King's  
Majesty to the  
Abbot of Burgh  
for doing his  
service.

S. Peter greeting. Whereas you hold in the county of Northampton and elsewhere certain manors, lands, and tenements, by the service of keeping guard of the Castle of Rockingham in time of war, or when need should be; We command you to do that service by reason of your said tenure, just as other tenants of the said manors, lands, and tene-

\* Chart. 16 John, confirmed 11 Henry III. Pt. 1. m. 18. The boundary of the Nesse is described "inter aquam de Nene et aquam de Welland sicut aque conveniunt in Croyland," as if the flow of the stream was from Nene to Welland. The stream, which is now dry, flowed under Croyland bridge, but the current seems to have set from the Welland; and in that case the rivers did not meet at Croyland. Stupendiston may be located, probably, at a stone quarry on the Roman road, called Streetway, which crossed the Welland west of the bridge at Stamford. In 1301 this landmark, in a perambulation of the forest, is called Stubbedeston. On the Ordnance maps Stump Stone is marked a mile beyond the Welland. S. Michael's priory was contiguous to the north side of Burghley House.

† The grants of the stewardship are worded "Castrum nostrum de Rockingham et seneschalciam foreste nostre inter pontes Oxon. et Staunford." The contraction for Oxendon (Oxendone) has been mistaken, in the Calendars of the Rolls, to refer to Oxford. Oxendon bridge lies to the south of the village, over the Ise brook.

‡ Abbreviations expanded.

ments aforetime have been bound and accustomed to do. And in this fail not at your peril. Witness Edward, Duke of York, Keeper of England, at the town of Saint Albans, the 10th day of July in the twenty-third year of our reign.

The following steps were taken in obedience to this writ :—

Pretextu cujus brevis dominus Abbas misit xv<sup>o</sup> die mensis predicti ad dictum castrum de Rokingham fratrem Thomam Fauvell Senescallum suum cum uno scutifero et viginti sagittarios sufficienter arraiatos. Ac cum eis unam chariotam de Abbathia victualium subscriptorum cartatum videlicet xij jactus panis j quartarium carcosii bovis j salsus piscis ij duri pisces lx alleciae de barell, j bussellus salis et dimidium busselli farine avenarum. Item ij olle erris et j cacibos eneus et j girus ferreus preterea singuli ij ceperunt lectum unum secum de proprio. Et predicto die pernoctantur apud Eston in crastino colloquio habito cum Willelmo Burdan locum tenente Ricardi Sydrak janitoris dicti castrum ingressi sunt dictum castrum predictus Senescallus vice et nomine dicti Abbatis cum uno scutifero et xij deducti sunt per dictum locum tenentem ad quamdam Wardam Castrum predicti custodiendum que durat a magno turre usque ad gabulam de Blakehall et ibidem hospitati sunt in quadam aula vocata Burghalle subtus dictam Wardam cum aliis cameris infra dictam aulam existentibus et j coquina et j lardera dicte aule contigua.

*In English :—*

In pursuance of this writ the Lord Abbot sent on the fifteenth day of the month aforesaid to the said castle of Rockingham Brother Thomas Fauvell, his Steward, with one esquire and twenty archers fully equipped. And with them one waggon from the Abbey loaded with the undermentioned victuals, that is to say, 12 measures\* of bread, one quarter of a carcase of beef, one salt fish, two smoked fishes, 60 herrings in a barrel, one bushel of salt, and half a bushel of oatmeal. Also two flasks of brass, one copper pot, and one iron wheel. And further each couple of men took one bed for themselves. And on the day aforesaid they spent the night at Easton†: and on the next morning, after a conference with William Burdan, deputy of Richard Sydrak, ‡ gatekeeper of the said Castle, the aforesaid Steward, in the place and name of the said Abbot, with one esquire and twelve of the archers aforesaid, entered

\* Jactus, quia mensura quasi jacitur.

† Great Baston, co. Leic., about 2 miles from Rockingham. The Abbot had considerable possessions here. The Dean and Chapter of Peterborough still hold the patronage of the living.

‡ 1379. Pat. 2 Ric. II. Richard Sidrake and Will. Burdon to be surveyors of the work at Rockingham Castle and at the lodge of Benefield.



the Castle, and were conducted by the said deputy to guard a certain ward of the said Castle, which extends from the keep to the gable of Blakehall,\* and there they were lodged in a certain hall called Burghall, beneath the said ward, and in other chambers under the hall, and a kitchen and larder adjoining.†

The veracious scribe who has noted all that was of interest to him, had no thought of the years to come. Did Brother Fauvell's squire carry the Abbot's banner? and was the device on it a red cross with the cross keys? and were the tunics of the archers white with the red cross of S. George? We should much like to know such details, so that we could depict the company.

Leland, in his *Itinerary*, notices the state of the Castle in 1540: "right stately, and hath a mighty dicke and bulle warks within and without the dicke. The lodgings faul to ruin. The waulles be embatelid on booth sides so that if the area of the castelle were won by cumming in at eyther of the two greate gates, yet the keepers of the waulles might defende the Castelle."

We cannot fix precisely the position of Burghall. The walls being double, with a wide rampart within, it was probably built under the rampart between the east gateway and the Keep. This was pulled down during the Commonwealth.

The salt victuals were just the thing to give the soldiers a thirst. "Shoeing-horns for good ale" is what herrings were called. The sentinel, pacing the ramparts when all the shire and forest were mute, could join in song with his comrades in the hall below:—

Loud strains of song invade the night:  
The red-cross archers o'er the bowl  
Of freedom sing and chaunt of Yôl.

L. GACHES.

\* Or *gabula* may mean gallows. In Wise's *History of Rockingham Castle*, 1893, neither Blakehall nor Burghall is mentioned.

† The duty of keeping ward was enforced in the King's towns. Leland, *Itin.* v. 7., referring to Stamford, says, "The Northern men [Pilgrimage of Grace, A.D. 1536] brent muche of Stamford Towne. It is not since fully re-edified. There were seven principal towers or wards in the waulles to eche of whiche were certeyne freholders in the Towne allottid to wache and warde in tyme of neade."

**875.—Armour at Aldreth (741).**—A hoard of bronze arms was found on Mingay's Farm, in Wilburton Rush Fen, in January, 1882. Aldreth, or Audrey, Bridge was over the Ouse about two miles west of the spot where the arms were found. They covered a space of six feet square on the clay under the peat. Metal would gradually sink through peat saturated with water; and the practice of burning the land, in order to consolidate it, accounts for the molten metal. In Vol. 48 of *Archæologia*, 1885, are drawings of several of the bronze weapons. Among the 163 bronze objects were socketed celts, swords, scabbards, spear-heads, buckles, rings, and some melted metal.

Audrey Bridge, where Hereward stopped the Normans, is a thing of the past. The liability to repair it was attached to Haddenham manor, a part of the patrimony of Queen Etheldreda. This, with other manors, was surrendered to the Crown; and was granted by Queen Elizabeth to Lord Howard, and he, for a time, sustained the bridge. In 1638, when Archbishop Laud was travelling on a Visitation, there was not even a ferry. The bridge is marked in Badeslade's map, drawn in 1723. Is it known who sustained the bridge, and if it was used for carriage traffic? When did it finally disappear?

L.G.

**876.—Militia Assessments at Deeping S. James,—**

(I)

July : 4<sup>th</sup> [16]83 Deeping S<sup>t</sup> James

A duplicate of all estates within our parish w<sup>th</sup> the names of y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>r</sup>sent owners, and y<sup>e</sup> yearly value of y<sup>e</sup> same: And also A list of all armes both horse and foote charged therin.

	per annum	li	s	d
Tho: Frewing Esq <sup>r</sup> late Wymondsold: bearing charge to-wards horse.....		250	0	0
Noah Neale Esq <sup>r</sup> his estate bearing to horse .....		116	0	0
Lister Tigh Esq <sup>r</sup> and his mother to horse.....		50	0	0
The Lord FitchWilliams: A foote soldier .....		40	0	0
Erasmus Smith Esq <sup>r</sup> : A foote soldier .....		50	0	0
Edey Lacey gent: A foote soldier.....		40	0	0
John Wildbore gen <sup>t</sup> : A foote soldier .....		30	0	0

Ezekiell Johnson Clerke .....	5	0	0
Robt : Smith sen his estate valued att .....	2	10	0
Fran : Pollards att .....	2	10	0
Tho : Ayre att.....	2	0	0

The Inhabitants of James Deeping charged with two foote soldiers whose proportions are as follows

Nicho : Measure his estate valued att .....	3	15	0
Sarah : Measure widd .....	5	12	6
Tho : Burges .....	1	15	0
Willm : Jackson .....	3	10	0
Mrs Sarah Tigh widd .....	5	0	0
Edw : Watson.....	5	0	0
Rich : Turnill .....	4	0	0
Robt : Sharpe .....	9	5	0
Tho : Baley.....	3	0	0
Rich : Warren.....	4	10	0
Robt : Glenn .....	3	12	6
Robt : Stratton .....	8	0	0
Eliza : Walton widd .....	5	10	0
Ann : Slawson widd .....	5	10	0
Robt : Ellington.....	4	0	0
Willm : Bucke & John .....	6	0	0
Robt : Foe .....	2	15	0
Tho : Johnson.....	5	0	0
Nicho : Allam.....	2	0	0
Rich : Buddle.....	7	10	0
Rich : Smith & John .....	7	0	0
Robt : Tigh.....	2	10	0
Robt : Lambert .....	5	0	0
Sym : Bucke .....	2	0	0

[Endorsed] James Deeping List of all armes charged within parish with the names of all persons charged.

## (II)

June y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1697 A duplicate fo[r] y<sup>e</sup> payment of Souldiers Wages and for Money Charged towards drums and Cullers Assessed on y<sup>e</sup> Outdwellers as Followeth : viz :

	li	s	d
John : Tomlin.....	0	0	8
The Heirs of Sara Cole Wido .....	0	1	8
Mr Sam <sup>l</sup> Johnsons Estate .....	0	1	6
Will <sup>m</sup> . Bowman late Walton .....	0	1	6
Wido : Boyall late Glenn.....	0	1	0
Joh : Cartter late Tigh.....	0	1	0
Joh : Bucke.....	0	1	4
The Heirs of Hen : Baxter .....	0	0	6
Georg. Burings Estate .....	0	0	8
Mr. Joslins Estate .....	0	1	0
Mr. Coles Estate.....	0	0	8
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Knowles .....	0	0	8
Cement. (sic) Manister Estate .....	0	0	8
Mr. James Wrights Estate .....	0	0	6
Rich : Turnill .....	0	1	4

Mr. Robt : Butcher .....	0	0	4
Mr. Johnson his Estate 5 Houses.....	0	1	0
Pette : Hawkins Estate .....	0	0	6
Joh : Deanes gent Estate.....	0	1	4
Hippo : Hudson .....	0	0	4
Wido : Hunt .....	0	0	4
Fran : Laxton.....	0	0	4
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Smith Crowl' .....	0	0	4
The Wido Lambert Estate .....	0	1	4

## (III)

Deeping St. James Octob<sup>r</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1715.

A Duplicate or list of all y<sup>e</sup>. Estates in Our Parish: Freehold and coppey: with y<sup>e</sup>. Names of y<sup>e</sup>. present Owners. and the yearly Value of the Same. of all w<sup>ch</sup>. pay to y<sup>e</sup>. finding of armes in y<sup>e</sup>. Malisha of this County both to Horss and foot is as Followeth—viz—

	li	per annum	s	d
Imp(rimis) Mad <sup>m</sup> . Jane Wymondisold wido her Estate				
valued at.....	300	00	00	
Item Mad <sup>m</sup> . Theodocia Neale wido her Estate valued at ...	151	00	00	
bearing charge to a horss.				
	li	per annum		
Imp(rimis) the Hon <sup>r</sup> . Lord Will <sup>m</sup> . Fizwilliams Estate				
valued at.....	40	00	00	
Item Late Doct <sup>r</sup> . Wigmore Estate valued at .....	05	00	00	
Edw <sup>r</sup> . Watson gent his Estate valued at.....	03	00	00	
Late Tobias Nichollses Estate valued at* .....	02	00	00	
Late Mr. Brackenbereys Estate valued at† .....	30	00	00	
Mr. Rob <sup>t</sup> . Deepups.....	05	00	00	
George Featherstons.....	05	00	00	
Elizeb <sup>t</sup> . Turnill wido her.....	04	00	00	
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Rippons.....	03	00	00	
John Cartters* Estate late Teighs valued at .....	03	00	00	
Mr John Walker his.....	16	00	00	
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Royston his.....	04	00	00	
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Halls Estate late Desberowe valued at.....	02	10	00	
Mad <sup>m</sup> . Walburge her.....	06	00	00	
Sam <sup>l</sup> . Johnsons.....	05	00	00	
Will <sup>m</sup> . Ashtons Estate late Rich <sup>r</sup> . Burows valued at.....	5	00	00	
John Tomlinsons Estate late John Burows valued at.....	2	10	00	
John Fen late Frenches Estate &c valued at .....	02	10	00	
Mr. Hopkin late Mr Bormans .....	04	10	00	
Mr. Lindsey Hust* his .....	02	00	00	
Mr Rich <sup>r</sup> . Higg his.....	02	00	00	
The Same late Mr. Sharpes .....	18	00	00	
Bromfield Belsgrave his .....	02	00	00	
Will <sup>m</sup> . Syles.....	16	00	00	
John Boultons.....	10	00	00	
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Goodales*.....	02	00	00	
Thomas Bucks .....	17	00	00	

\* This is last of first group of those assessed, as it seems, for foot soldiers. An asterisk is put above at the last name in each group. The assessments amount roughly to £50 in the total in each case.

† These words are repeated after each name, unless otherwise stated.

George Bowmans .....	07 00 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Mans .....	06 00 00
Franc Garfords .....	05 00 00
Ralph Uppexs.....	02 10 00
John Bucks.....	03 00 00
Robt. Foe Sen <sup>rs</sup> .....	03 00 00
Robt Foe iun <sup>ts</sup> .....	02 00 00
George Bunings .....	02 00 00
Jonas Delahoy* f ( <i>torn</i> ) Heaneses Estate.....	02 10 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Johnsons .....	08 00 00
Mr. Robt. Sharpes .....	02 10 00
Mr. Dan. Shapes.....	07 00 00
Lawrenc' Sharemans.....	06 00 00
John Eldred Esq <sup>r</sup> his.....	02 10 00
Robt. Bucks.....	03 00 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Measures .....	03 00 00
Corn Febbs .....	02 10 00
Nicholas Measures.....	02 10 00
Zacharias Turnills .....	02 00 00
Joshua Bailys.....	02 10 00
John Keisbeys.....	02 00 00
John Johnsons.....	02 00 00
Gregory Holmeses .....	02 00 00
Mr. James Wrights.....	02 10 00

by us Thomas Buck

Will: Man as wittnes my hand

Tho: Johnson

Tho: Measure

[Endorsed] 1715. A bill of all y<sup>e</sup>. armes bearers belonging to Deeping St James

beeing a true coppey of y<sup>t</sup>. w<sup>ch</sup>. Will<sup>m</sup>. Man and Tho<sup>m</sup>. Buck caried to y<sup>e</sup> Debete Leivetenants of this County the (*torn*) of Octob<sup>r</sup> 1715 to Lincoln

Deeping St<sup>t</sup>. James.

Valeuation.

(IV)

To the Constables of Deeping St. James and to Every of them.

Lincoln Sst†: Wee whose hands and Seales are hereto Sett, beeing his Majest<sup>s</sup> Deputy Leivetenants for the said County of Lincolne: doe hereby Order and appoint the Several persons mentioned in the List here under written; to Find and provide Seven Foot Souldjers and armes in the Militia of this County, to be sett forth in Capt. Blackwells Company, And wee doe appoint the Several and Respective persons, Principalls and

† Scilicet, to wit.

armes finders as they are mentioned in the said list here under written, And the Bearers as they are joynd to their respective principalls, The charge whereof, to be borne by principalls and bearers, in proportion to the Sums against their respective names in the sd list here under written, And wee doe require y<sup>n</sup>. the sd Constables forthwith to Comunicate this our Order to the Severall persons herein concerned. Given under our hands and Seals this Second day of May Anno Domi 1716.

	li	
Late Mr. Brackenburys Estate Principall and Armes finder	27	} One foot Souldjer
Elizebt. Turnill.....	07	
Georg: Featherston .....	12	
Robt. Deepup .....	09	
John Cartter.....	06	
Mrs. Hurtis .....	04	
Mr. Feast .....	03	
	<hr/> 68	

	li	
Mr. John Walker Principall and armes finder .....	22	} One foot Souldjer
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Royston.....	05	
John Fen .....	07	
Sam <sup>u</sup> l. Johnson.....	07	
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Hall weh was 9 <sup>li</sup> .....	06	
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Knowles.....	04	
Rich <sup>r</sup> . Ward .....	05	
John Royston .....	05	
Robt. Rippon .....	04	
Gregory Holmes .....	02	
Corn Febb.....	04	
	<hr/> 71	

	li	
Mr. Will <sup>m</sup> . Sly Principall and arms finder.....	18	} One foot Souldjer
John Boulton .....	16	
James Wright .....	04	
Georg Buning .....	03	
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Measure.....	04	
Edwr. Watson .....	04	
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Goodale now 2.10 .....	04	
John Tomlinson .....	05	
Robt. Wollice .....	04	
Paul Allam .....	03	
Nich <sup>s</sup> Measure .....	05	
	<hr/> 70	

	li	
Thoms. Buck Principall and armes finder .....	30	} One foot Souldjer
Will <sup>m</sup> . Man .....	10	
Georg. Bowman .....	10	
John Buck.....	06	
Robt. Buck*.....	04	
Rich <sup>d</sup> . Smith.....	02	
Wido Day.....	02	
Mr. Hust .....	02	
Edw <sup>r</sup> . Jackson .....	02	
Rich <sup>d</sup> . Mason .....	02	

	li	
Thom <sup>s</sup> . Johnson Principall and arms finder.....	21	} One foot Souldjer
John Keisbey .....	07	
Zachari' Turnill .....	06	
John Eldred.....	07	
Dan. Snape .....	09	
Lawrenc' Shareman .....	09	
John Johnson .....	06	
Franc' Garford .....	10	

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	li
Lord Fitzwilliams Principall and arms finder .....	47
Late Doct <sup>r</sup> . Wigmore.....	08
Tobi: Nicholls.....	02
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Teigh .....	03
Ralph Uppex .....	03
Joshua Baily .....	04
John Coulson .....	02

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	li	
John Allam Principal and arms Finder .....	10	} One foot Souldjer
Lidia Baily .....	08	
Wido Grant .....	04	
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Brainsbey now 2 li .....	03	
Jonas Delahoy.....	06	
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Foe Sen <sup>r</sup> .....	08	
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Foe iun <sup>r</sup> .....	03	
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Foe } John Lambert .....	03	
Edw <sup>r</sup> . Adkisson } John Weldon .....	04	
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Elington.....	03	
Will <sup>m</sup> . Stamford .....	03	
Will <sup>m</sup> . Ashton .....	08	
Mr. Hopkins .....	10	
Hen <sup>r</sup> . Money.....	03	

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\* The last five names are added by way of correction instead of one person assessed at £10, transferred to another group. The amount, not added up, comes to £70.

† Error: should be £69. There is a name (Edw<sup>r</sup>. Watson) erased before Nicholls. It had been entered previously.

Appeale Day is appointed on Monday the fourth day of June next at the George in Sleaford.

Memorand The above writing and list are a true coppey of the Originall Order signed and Sealed by Sr. Will<sup>m</sup>. Buck. Sr. Will<sup>m</sup>. Yorke. and Edw<sup>r</sup>. Brown Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Examined their with by

Edw<sup>r</sup>. Darley Sen<sup>r</sup>. Edward: Darley: iun<sup>r</sup>.

**877.—Wilsthorpe Church (858).**—An account of this church, from the pen of Mr. T. Paradise, appeared in *The Stamford Mercury* at the time of the re-opening after restoration in 1863. From this account, which has been kindly forwarded by Mr. Phillips, of Stamford, we learn that the cost of the restoration was about £800. The architect employed was Mr. Fowler, of Louth, and all the plans were carried out by Stamford workmen. Wilsthorpe was one of the estates confiscated by William I., and by him it was conferred upon Ivo de Tailbois. The effigy described in our previous article is said to be “exquisitely carved,” and the armour is said to mark the period of Henry III. This corresponds with the century conjectured. It is further suggested that the warrior commemorated may have accompanied the King’s son, Prince Edward, afterwards Edward I., to the Holy Land. It was at one time believed that a cross-legged effigy always represented a crusader: but it is now generally held that this view cannot be justified.

Mr. Phillips has also forwarded a letter from Mr. Edward Blore, the well-known architect, to the late Dean Mantell, of date 1864. He speaks in high terms of the great beauty of the effigy at Wilsthorpe; and believes that it represents Sir Ralph Mortimer, who is known to have possessed lands in Wilsthorpe early in the fourteenth century. A short account of the church given in the Report of the Lincoln Diocesan Architectural Society for 1863 speaks of the coat of arms as that of the Wake family; and this impression is



general ; but the shield has in chief (as already pointed out) three mullets, and not (as in the Wake coat) three besants or torteaux, and Mr. Blore's suggestion is therefore more probably correct. In Burke's Armory there are no less than 29 coats of arms assigned to the name of Mortimer ; and one of these is "Gules, two bars argent, in chief three mullets of the second." On the effigy, of course, no tinctures can now be traced, if any ever existed : but the bearings on the shield are exactly those just given.

ED.

**878.—Sorcery at Holbeach.**—The exercise of the art of sorcery and incantment to discover treasure and stolen goods was declared by the Act of 33 Hen. VIII., c. 8., A.D. 1541, to be a felony without benefit of clergy\* ; this was supplemented by an Act of 1562, 5 Eliz., c. 16, which imposed the punishment of the pillory† and imprisonment for one year for a first offence, and imprisonment for life and forfeiture of all goods for a second offence. These acts were repealed in 1603, by 1 James I., c. 12 ; an Act against "conjuraton, witchcraft, and dealing with evil and wicked spirits, and sorcerie, to tell us what place any treasure of golde or silver or where goods lost or stolen should be founde." This Act remained in force till 1736, when the Act of 5 Geo. II., c. 5, made an end of prosecutions for witchcraft or incantment, but making it an indictable offence to *pretend to exercise* "such damnable arts."

In the reign of Henry VIII., the church goods of the parish of Holbeach were stolen, and the parish authorities consulted Edmond Nasche and John Lamkyn, soothsayers of repute ; and their divinations indicated that John Partriche, one of the inhabitants, knew more than he should do about the sacrilege. His friends shrank from him, and his house was

\* Benefit of Clergy was abolished in 1826 by 7 Geo. IV., c. 28. The first verse of the fifty-first psalm, *Miserere mei*, is known as the "neck verse." The Bishop's Chaplain prepared the book, and the judge turned to any passage.

† The Act of 7 Will. IV., and 1 Vic., c. 23, enacts that thereafter judgment shall not be given and awarded against any person that he do stand in or upon the pillory.

mobbed. To clear himself from this horrible, damnable, and damageable slander, he resorted to the Court of Star Chamber, which supervised such matters. The petition and answer are taken verbatim from the Star Chamber records, B. 17, No. 64.

To the Kyng ower Sovreign lord. Showeth unto yor highness yor treu and faithful subject John Partriche that wher abowte the vi<sup>th</sup> day of September last past the parishe Churche of Holbeche in the countie of Lyncolne was robberyd and spoyled of money and of divrsse juells, as it is supposyd abowte the valeu of CCC markys and above And to thentente to have knowlege of the namys of the theffys and to know wher the sayd mony and goods was bycom divrsse of the parsheners of Holbech parishe resortyd to on Edmond Nasche dwellyng at Cicestre towne beyng a wheler and occupying the craft of inchauntment and wichecraft And also to on John Lamkyn of the seyd towne of Holbeche in the said countie of Lyncolne wiche occupyeth also inchauntment and wichecraft and sorcery and name themselfe to be sothe seyers and to have knowlege of negramanse: And the same Lamkyn and Nasche unlawfully confederyd them selfe togyther at Cicestre aforeseid so that the same inchauntors for a c<sup>t</sup>eyn reward to them promysed toke upon them to geve that seyd parsheners knowlege of the namys of the theffys and wher the said mony and goods wer conveyed And then and ther falsly and untrewly the same inchauntors namyd your sayd subject to be on of the theves that robbed the said Churche And made divrsse byllys therof to the seyd parsheners conteynyng divrsse tokyns and marks devysed by the seyd inchauntors wherby as the seyd inchauntors affermyd the seyd parsheners should know the seyd thevys by reson wherof the seyd parsheners of Holbeche afore seyd a gen all laws of God and of yor highness gevyng faithe and credens to the seyd inchauntors have now of late published and reported untrewly in the seyd parishe of Holbeche and in divrsse other placys w<sup>th</sup>in the schere of Lincolne that yor seyd subject shuld be on of the thevys and of thoys that shuld be the robbers of the seyd churche by reson wherof yor seyd subject having in his possession and to his own use landys and tenements to the clere yerely valew of xl marks and goods convenient to his degre and more then many other have And beyng afore that tyme always reputyd takyn of good name fame honeste credens and conversacon in the seyd county he ys now brought into infamy slander and oute of credens so that such as afore this tyme have ben conversant w<sup>t</sup> him withdraw hys company and such as afore this have ben his ffrendys have hym now in mystrust w<sup>t</sup>out cause and withdraw ther frendshippe and favor from hym to hys utter undoying in this world for ever and to the perillus comforte and ensampull of other suche enchauntors and whichis and to the encrease of the mysbeleve of yor highness subjects in the same wichcraftys onless yor highness favor and dew punishment be the soner atteyned and had in this byhalfe And forasmuch as it ys agen the law of God and of yor highness that any person shall use and exercise any inchauntments sorcery or wiche crafte or in any man<sup>r</sup> wise practise nygramansi. Plesyth it yor seyd highness to grante severall writts of subpena to be directyd unto the seyd Edmonde Nasche and John Lamkyn comandyng them by the same to answer byfore yor highness and the lords of yor most honorable Councill in the Ster Chamber at a certain day and upon a certayn payne by yor highnesse to be lymyted ther to answer to the premises and to abyd and obey such order direcon and jugement in the premises as may stand w<sup>t</sup> right and good conscience and yor seyd subject shall dayly pray to God for yor most royall estate in honor long to contynew to the plesure of God.

The answer of John Lamkyn to the bill of Complaynt of John Partriche.

The seyd John Lamkyn seyth that he havynge resonable knowleg in the sciens of gramer long afore the seyd robbery specyfyed in the seyd bill of compleynt comytted and at the tyme of the same was resident and abydyng in the said towne of Holbeche there techyng and instructyng chylidren in the sciens of gramer and havynge his lyvyng by the same. And after the said robbery done there was a fame and report made to the churchwardens and other the most honest and substancial persons inhabitants in the same towne that the seyd Nasche specyfyed in the said bill of compleynt should be an expert man in knowleg of thyngs stolen by reson whereof this defendaunt havynge gret part of hys lyvyng by the comfort and relefe of the said Inhabitats and beyng moche desirous to have knowlege of suche persons as comytted the seyd robbery to the extent that punyshment for the same myght ensue accordyng to justice after ther demeryts at the request and desier of onn Henry Elman and Richarde Gibson then beyng Churchwardens of the said church and of dyvrs other honest inhabtats of the seyd parysh repayed to Cicester to the same Nasche demandyng of hym what knowleg he cowde tell of the sayd robbery shewyng to hym a payer of gloves of lether whiche were ffounde in the revery of the seyd church imedeatly after the said robbery was knownen to be done. Wher upon the said Nasche caused an instrucion to be made in wrytyng of such circumstances as he cowd tell in the seyd robbery and delyvryd the same to this defendaunt whiche he brought home and delyvryd and shewyd to the seyd ch-wardens and to divrs other honest inhabitants of the seyd parish. Without that the seyd def<sup>t</sup> ever occupied any enchantment wyche craft or sorcery or hath any knowleg of nygromancy in man<sup>r</sup> and forme as in the seyd bill of compleynt ys surmytted and w<sup>t</sup>hout that the same def<sup>t</sup> at any tyme confederat hymself w<sup>t</sup> the seyd Nasche or that he and the same Nasche toke upon them to gif eny knowleg of the theves that robbed the seyd church and where the seyd goods and money were conveyed or that the seyd defendant named the sayd partryche to be oon of the seyd theves that robbed the said church or devysed eny tokens or marks for eny suche cause in man<sup>r</sup> and forme as in the said bill of compleynt ys surmytted otherwise or in eny other forme then to hym was shewid notyfyd and declared by the seyd Nasche by his instrucion in wrytyng wch he browt from the seyd Nasche and delyvred to the churchwardens and parisheners as ys aforesaid. And this defendant seyth that the Inhabitants of the seyd parishe sythens the same robbery hath taken gret paynes in diligent serches for knowlege to be had of the same robbery and of presumpeons and liklyhods per catesium of them have suspected the seyd Partriche but whether they or eny of them have determyned or precysely seyed that he was one of the theves this def<sup>t</sup> knoweth not nor yet perceyveth that the sayd Partriche by occasion of eny suspect hath lost eny ffrend in his medlyng but hath good help and assistens and what he may spende this def<sup>t</sup>. knowyth not certainly but supposyth that yt ys a gret dele lesse then ys surmytted in the bill w<sup>t</sup>out that that eny other thing specyfyed in the said bill of compleynt material to be answeryd unto and not before trav<sup>r</sup>syd or confessyd and avoyded ys true all whiche mater the seyd defendant ys redy to profe as this court shall awarde and prayeth to be dysmyssed w<sup>t</sup> his resonable costs for hys wrongfull vexacon by him susteyned in this behalf.

During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries it was no small matter to fall under suspicion of being a practitioner of witchcraft, or a conjurer. Dr. John Dee, a mathematician, had to

petition the King to clear himself from suspicion of the devilish art. And in 1608 Dr. John Lambe\* was indicted for devilishly and feloniously practising certain evil, diabolical, and execrable arts called witchcraft to the intent to make infirm and consume the body and strength of Lord Winsor. There was a second count for invoking and entertaining evil spirits. He escaped on a technical point: but he became notorious as a conjurer, and was killed by the mob in the City of London in 1628. Dr. Dee's work on spiritualism, entitled "A true and faithful relation of what passed for many years between Dr. John Dee, mathematician, and some spirits, tending to a general alteration of most states and Kingdoms in the world," was not published till 1659, after his death. It must have been written in the delirium of one of the "actions" when he had called "spirits from the vasty deep," and was surrounded with his magical stone, tapers, and holy furniture. This folio was heralded with a prefatory defence by M. Casaubon, D.D., who relies on probabilities, and the likelihood of its truth as derived from the general belief.

In 1677, John Webster, practitioner in physic, published a folio wherein he "handled the existence of angels," and demonstrated the supposed league betwixt the devil and witches to be a delusion. But the belief lingered. In 1691 the solemn Richard Baxter, D.D., wrote a duo-decimo on the subject, wherein "the certainty of the world of spirits is fully evinced by unquestionable histories of apparitions and witchcrafts, operations and voices"! It was reserved for a lawyer to end this nonsense. The grand jury of Warwick, c. 1700, had found a true bill against an old woman for witchcraft, and riding on broomsticks through the clouds. Holt, C. J., discharged her, saying she could do so again if she liked; and that he knew no law against it.

L. G.

\* This notorious person, who was known as "the Duke's Devil," should not be confused with Dr. John Lambe, Dean of the Arches, a contemporary proctor, and Chancellor of the Diocese of Peterborough.

**879.—The Drainage of the Great Level (No. 1).—**

The Great Level of the Fens bore a sombre aspect in the tenth century. No alleys green, no bosky dells, no song of the lark to cheer the new-comer. No ripples in the streams, no fresh breezes to gladden the wayfarer. It was the home of chill mist, where no sound was heard but the sigh of the tall reeds and the lone heron's cry. The very air was noisome: those who breathed it lived through agues to a jaundice. But the land was not desolate: here and there a cross proclaimed the presence of the man of prayer.

The early history of the dreary pathless waste of the Fenland must be tracked by the light which shines from the Monastery. To serve God, and by prayer to sanctify the daily task, was the life of the monk. Through perils, self-denial and tardy labour, the Order of S. Benedict fulfilled their double service. To them we owe the culture of the fens, a fruitful land in lieu of fenny delph and mere.

Waste land was little valued when King Witlaf endowed the monks of Crowland with that isle; but they sought no reward. The seclusion of the place was a refuge from violence, and the hope of a higher life enabled them to endure toilsome lives and leave a heritage which is the glory of England, and a joy for ever—our Abbeys.

Early writers seek to account for the submersion of the Fenland by conjecturing some great earthquake; but the subsidence or upheaval of the crust of the earth which is constantly in operation, though imperceptible to us, accounts for the encroachment and retirement of the sea. The Fenland has never been at rest, and will never cease to change.

From Waldram Hall, by the Welland, to Soham Mere, by the Ouse, an area of 320,000 acres lay waste at the Conquest. Richard de Rulos,\* lord of Deeping, who devoted his leisure to agriculture and delighted in the multitude of his cattle, as

\* The King's Chamberlain. He married the heiress of Hugh de Evermue, lord of Bourne, who acquired that manor in marriage with the daughter of Hereward the Wake.

Ingulph relates, came to Crowland and gave 20 marks of silver as an alms gift to the Convent, for the Abbot's licence to enclose Deeping fen. Then he excluded the Welland by a strong embankment, made separate pastures of the fen as far east as Car-dike,\* "out of sloughs and bogs accurst making a pleasure garden." The neighbouring villages, in imitation of the enclosure of Deeping fens, by common resolve divided their fens, some converting them to tillage, others leaving them for meadow or pasture, generally reserving a large area to be a common pasture for all the tenants of the manor; and by usage these practices have wrought themselves into a law.

As the inclosure of the land was by co-operation for mutual benefit, so the burden of defending it from floods by cleansing and embanking streams, was a common burden on the landholders. The necessity of protecting land under culture from the descent of land water by means of barrier banks† has been a constant cause of strife between the tenants of adjoining manors and parishes. To defend one fen, was to drown another. Each manor took care of its own interests, and the outfall of the rivers on which the general welfare depended was left to take care of itself. In A. D. 1285, King Edward I., coming across the Isle of Ely from King's Lynn, enquired why the floods were out in the summer, and being told that neglect to repair the banks of the lodes‡ was the cause, he at the instance of the men of Wisbech, and because of his royal dignity which bound him to protect the realm, directed his writ of enquiry to the Bishop of Ely and others to hold an inquisition to determine who were in default, and how the evil might be speedily remedied.§ From Ug Mere to Wisbech the banks of the Nene had crumbled away. That was in the Isle, and the Bishop was Lord of the Isle. He must mount the stony steps of the lantern towers at Ely and Burgh to

\* Car=marsh. An ancient boundary dike of the fenland.

† To protect from the descent of fresh water. Sea-banks are not a part of drainage works of the fens. They were repaired by the inhabitants of the hundred, or pursuant to a local Act.

‡ Lode or lade: a navigable drain.

§ Pat. 13 E. I., m. 24. d.

learn whence the trouble comes. The "chares"\* were all the trouble: the chares of the Ouse at Earith and at Littleport; of the Nene at Stanground; of the Welland at Waldram Hall; at those points the rivers coursing down from the uplands reach a flat country, and losing velocity, do not flow away as fast as the upland water flows in, so the volume of the latter has to mount over or press under the water which already fills the channel. Hence the overflowing of the fens and continued submersion, if the outfalls of the rivers are not free. The Isle of Ely is the heart of the Fenland, and the vital point was to keep the water flowing freely out of it. A straight channel was cut from Littleport Chare to the Little Ouse or Brandon River, whereby the pressure of water in Welney River† was relieved. A good plan. It gave the Ouse a short cut to the outfall at Lynn; but there was a drawback. It changed the natural system of drainage of the district and disturbed the current of the river which before that time had had its main flow by Westwater to Benwick, and there uniting with the Nene, to the outfall by Wisbech.‡

The fen rivers were the highways from the coast to the upland towns. The supplies of Spalding, Stamford, Peterborough, and Cambridge depended on water carriage. There were no roads in the fens, and the cost of carriage by the county roads was prohibitory. The fairs and markets of the provinces could only be supplied by navigation of the rivers. In A.D. 1335, urgent complaints of the hindrance to the navigation from Peterborough, Yaxley, and Spalding, induced the King to send a Commission to enquire "why the merchants of Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, and Northampton who have been accustomed in winter time to take their vessels through the rivers by Ramsey mere, Ub mere, and Whittlesey mere are obstructed, and to report through whose default to

\* Chare, a narrow passage. The word survives in Littleport chayre, and the Old Chayre at Upwell.

† Wellen Ea.

‡ At Benwick the Ouse and Nene united. See the plan made about 1580, given with this article. The scale of the rivers is enlarged.

cleanse the rivers the obstruction was caused."\* The diversion of the Ouse from Westwater had altered the volume of water flowing from Benwick, and the current of Westwater was beginning to set towards Earith. There was no help for it. The Old Nene was doomed. The men of Peterborough, Thorney, Whittlesey, and March had to manage as they could till A.D. 1478, when Bishop Morton made the New Leam to carry the Nene water directly to Guyhirn.

Commissions of Sewers were generally in force from 1300 to 1500, but though the Commissioners had large powers, they limited their attention to scouring rivers and natural watercourses. They undertook no new work, though petitions were numerous. One from the burgesses of Stamford, lamenting the decay of the Welland, is worth re-producing. It was embodied in a Private Act in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. †

La Royne le Veult. ‡

In their moste humble wise shewe and complaine to y<sup>r</sup> most excellent majestie youre true humble and faithful subjects the Aldermen burgesses and comynaltie of the borough and towne of Stanforde in y<sup>r</sup> highness countie of Lincoln that where it appeareth by the pytiful sight of the ruyns decayes and remaines as well of the auncient buildings of manye parishe churches and of other lardge and strong howses and bewtiful monuments sometyme errected and builded within the said towne and borough of Stanforde that the same hathe not onlye ben heretofore envyroned and walled with a wall of good strength for that tyme but also verie populose and well inhabited by a nombre of sundrie welthie and notable marchaunts whose welth and ryches began grewe and increased partly for that a Staple of Wolles was there kepte and mayntained whereby they had the name of marchaunts of the Staple But specially by the benefits and comodities that the said borough and towne had of an auncient ryver named Welland which passed from and through that towne to the sea and so to the Porte of Boston was in that age and tyme (as it may evidently appeare) navigable for boates and vessells to passe as well to and from the said porte of Boston as to and from the porte of Lyn and other the lower countries in Lincolnshire Norfolk and Cambridgeshire to the greate enriching of the said towne and borough of Stanford and of the said countries and neighbours adjacent Of which two sides that of the staple for wolles is in all appearance at this tyme irrecoverable considering the present convercon of the quantities of the wolles used in former tyme by marchaunts of the Staple now into the warpinge and making of wollen clothe in a great nombre of places of the Realme which arte and mysterie neyther in former tyme was nor could be used nor now can be for wante of woodes being there verie scarce But to have and enjoy againe the

\*Pat. 8 Edw. III., Pt. 2, m. 6. d. The rivers are referred to as "lades."

† A private Act, not printed and not on the Rolls. These are kept in the Journal Office of the House of Lords, and it is not easy to get access to them.

‡ The Royal assent. This is the form of assent to a public Bill. To a private Bill it should be, "Soit fait comme il est désiré." The form of a Royal rejection is "Le roy s'avisera."



benefyte use and comodytie of the said ryver of Wellande and so make the same navigable (as before tymes hath ben) is by the judgment of wise and expearte men fesible and manifestly to be proved howe it maye be well don although accon and doinge thereof be cheifly hindered by alteracon and devyacon of the auncient course and passage of the said ryver into dyvers streames ryvers and branches for erecon of syx or seven water mylles nowe standing betwixt the said borough of Stanforde and the towne of Market Depyng within the said Countie of Lincoln and within fyve miles distaunce from the said borough which upon the reparacon of them are of no suche cleare yearlie proffet and comoditie to the owners of them as the same shold be preferred before the common proffet welthe and comoditie of that parte of the realme and yet not ment that the owners and proprietaries of the said mylles shalbe depryved of the inheritance and fruite thereof without such a convenyent proporcons of recompence for the same as shalbe to the satisfacon of the said owners by the judgment and discrecon of those that shall be of good understanding and integrytie and in such forme as hereinafter shalbe particularlie limyted and ordered for the relevyng of y<sup>e</sup> said supplyants and of their posteritie and successors that shalbe hereafter inhabitants within the said borough and towne of Stanforde.

The Act directed the appointment of a special Commission of Sewers in which the owners of the mills were to be named. The Commissioners were empowered to alter the old courses of the river, to form new ones, to make decrees and rules which were to be allowed by Justices of Assize and certified into Chancery.\*

L. GACHES.

**880.—Whittlesey Horse Fair.**—The notice here given refers to the Fair at Whittlesey known as the Horse Fair, which is still held annually on the 13th of June. S.E.

*NOTICE.*

These are to give Notice to all Persons that there will be a Meeting and a Show of all Sorts of Colts and fillies, Stone Horses, Mares and foles, and all sorts of Beasts, and all other Stock upon the 4<sup>th</sup> Day of June next 1714 And so to be kept every year upon the 4<sup>th</sup> of June at Whittlesea in the Isle of Ely and County of Cambridge.

*Printed at Stamford in Lincolnshire.*

**881.—The City and Borough of Peterborough.**—Misapprehension prevails about the style of the corporation of Peterborough. The history of the “vill of Burgh” as it is called in Domesday, of the erection of the Bishopric of Peterborough, and of the grant of the dignity of city to the town, explains the double appellation. In 1541, when the Bishopric was erected, with the Cathedral Church for a See, the whole of the town lay within the County of Northampton,

\* These should be found in the Petty Bag.

and in 1874, when the charter of incorporation was granted, the town extended over the Nene into the County of Huntingdon. Charters of incorporation, granted pursuant to the Municipal Corporations Acts, are restricted to the constitution of boroughs; so the city dignity could not, in response to a petition under that Act, be conferred on or extended to that part of the borough which lay in the County of Huntingdon, and diocese of Ely.

The patent for the erection of the Bishopric, which conferred the title of city on the town, is as follows:—\*

And We will & decree that the whole of our town of Peterborough henceforth shall be a city to be called the City of Peterborough and We separate the whole of our county of Northampton as limited by metes and bounds from the diocese of Lincoln and exonerate it from all jurisdiction of the bishop of Lincoln and his successors And We grant and unite all episcopal jurisdiction within the said city and county of Northampton to the bishop of Peterborough by these presents named and appointed and to his successors And We make and ordain of the said city and county a diocese and We will and ordain that it shall in like manner be called the diocese of Peterborough.

This grant makes it clear that the City does not extend beyond the limits of the County of Northampton. The word "city" like "town" is expansive, so the dignity extends from time to time as the city grows, and includes any area within the metes and bounds of the County of Northampton. The burgesses dwelling therein are also citizens, but those who dwell in that part of the borough which lies outside the County of Northampton are not so dignified. Hence the style of Mayor, Aldermen, Citizens, and Burgesses of the City and Borough of Peterborough, is an appropriate title for the corporation.

There is a popular error about cities. The "see" of the bishop is the Cathedral church. A town where there is a cathedral is not necessarily dignified as a city. The town of Ely is an instance. The "see" of the bishop takes its title from Ely, but the town is not dignified with the title of city. By the common law of England the towns where the great ecclesiastical communities were seated are cities, but since the Conquest the dignity has been conferred by royal grant; the

\* Pat. 33 Henry VIII., Pt. 3, m. 33. De erectione Episcopatus de Burgo sancti Petri.

creation of titles being a branch of the royal prerogative. The Bishopric of Ely was erected A.D. 1109, with the church of S. Peter and S. Etheldreda as the cathedral church,\* but the town was not then dignified as a city, nor was it in 1541, when the Priory was dissolved, and reconstituted as the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Holy Trinity, and the episcopal see of the Bishop of Ely.†

Westminster is an instance of a city without a see of a bishop. Westminster Abbey was the see of a bishop from 1540 to 1550, with the County of Middlesex for a diocese.‡ If the patent did dignify the town with the title of city, it was lost when the bishopric was dissolved in 1550; but the title clung to the town, so that when the London Government Act, 1899, made clear to the Westmonasterians that their town was no better than any other borough and that they were shorn of the reputation of centuries, they became suppliants to the Crown to extend the royal prerogative to them by a restoration of their ancient title. This was graciously granted, so the borough is now styled the City of Westminster.§ Formerly the mayors of cities took precedence of mayors of boroughs.|| The precedence which the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge takes of the Mayor of the borough led to some jealousy in 1605, and the burgesses petitioned the king to grant to Cambridge the city dignity, with a view to oust the Vice-Chancellor of his precedence. King James returned a non placet, declaring that “where public shew of degrees is made let the Vice-Chancellor take precedence of the Mayor.”

L. GACHES.

\* Cart: 10 Henry I.

† The patent of erection of the Dean and Chapter changes the dedication of the Cathedral Church. But ecclesiastical authorities do not acknowledge the power of parliament to change an ancient dedication: and perhaps nobody now would say that Ely Cathedral was dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

‡ Pat. 32 Henry VIII. Bishop Thirlby held the bishopric. In 1556, Q. Mary re-founded the Benedictine Monastery of S. Peter, Westminster, with Abbot Feckenham as mitred abbot. Edward VI. established the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of Westminster as it now exists.

§ Pat. 64 Vict., 29 Oct. We grant and confirm to the Borough of Westminster the title of city, to be styled the City of Westminster, with all such rank, liberties, privileges, and immunities as are incident to a city.

|| Though not entitled to the style of Lord Mayor except by express grant.

## 882.—Wills of Irby Family (869).—

Ales Irbye, of Gosbertowne, co. Lincoln, Widow, dated 9 Jan., 1558, proved 2 May, 1563. P.C.C., 18 Chayre.

To be buried where I die. To poor man's boxes at Gosberton 10s., at Swynsted 5s., at Sutterton 3s. 4d., at Quadring 3s. 4d. To Rose Bradley £6. 13s. 4d., a seam of malt, a seam of barley, a seam of beans, and 10 sheep. Katherine Pierson to have 20 marks that her father my husband left her, and 40s. in money or household stuff. To Bartholomew Irby, son of my son John, 20s. yearly "till the same be paid." To Dorothy Domesday my daughter £6. 13s. 4d. in money or household stuff. To every child of William Bennett that he had with my daughter Jane 20s. at age of 18. To every child of Henry Deathe's 20s. at age of 21. To Edmund Irby £20. To Anthony Irby son of my son John £10. To Christian Irby daughter of my son Thomas 40s. and my best mazer. To Evered Irby £10. To Awdrie Irbie £3. 6s. 8d., and a bed to be furnished to her marriage. The same to each of the other daughters of my son Thomas Irby. The same daughters also to have each a brass pot and "a garnish of pewter vessel to be divided amongst them equally." To Margaret Fanks 20s. To her daughter 20s. To Rose Bradie (Bradley) a cow, and a pair of sheets and a pillow "that she layed to pledge." To Julian Domesdaye 20s. To Leonard Domesdaye 40s. and a cow. To Farris Irby at age of 20 40s. a year, half to be paid by each of my sons Leonard and Thomas; also 2 kine. Bequests of small sums of money or articles of dress to Godfrey Booles and his wife Maria, to each of their children, to Anne my son Leonard's wife, to Rose Bradie, to Isabell my son Thomas's wife, to Dorothy Domesdaye, to Margaret Deth, to Katherine Pearson, to every one of my servants. Residue of plate to sons Leonard and Thomas. Sermon to be preached yearly in church where I am buried, the preacher to have 5s. and the poor 6s. 8d. Residue for health of my soul. Exors., sons Leonard and Thomas. Disposition of lands, &c., "which I have this day by myne owne inheritance as by the gift of the laste will and testament of Anthony Irby my late husband": to Leonard my son and his heirs lands in Swynsted, Bicker, and Wigtoft: to Thomas my son lands freehold and copyhold in Gosberton, Surfleet, and Quadring. Witnesses, Hugh Brady, Thomas Nutkin, Robert Belamy, and others. Testator's son Thomas, one of the exors., died before probate.

Leonard Irbye, of Boston, co. Lincoln, Esq. Dated 23 Aug., 1562, proved 28 Nov., 1571. P.C.C., 42 Holney.

To my wife Anne Irbye and her heirs all my lands, &c., in Swyneshide, Bicker, Gosberton, Wigtoft, Winthrope, and Brough, co. Lincoln. To her for life all my lands, &c., in Sutterton, Fosdyke, and Algarkirk, remainder to Kelham Irby, son of my brother John, and his heirs. To said Kelham Irby and his heirs all my lands, &c., in Swineshead, Bicker, and Wigtoft, which I had of the gift of Alice Irby my mother: also all freehold and copyhold lands in Spalding, Cowbit, Moulton, and Weston. My lands, &c., in Wyberton and Frampton, conveyed to William Whittingham and William Swanne, and their heirs, from Edward, Lord Clynton and Saye, and me Leonard Irbye, to be sold by my wife for payment of my debts. To wife my terms of years in parsonages and rectories of Gosberton and Quadring. Also to her my leases in Gosberton, Quadring, and Surfleet, lease of manor of Whaplode-hall, and of lands in Bicker, Swyneshide, and Wigtoft. "To every of my bretherin and system childe and children 5 marks to be paid at their several full age." To each of my sisters alive at my death 40s. Residue of personalty to my wife, who is to be exor.

Supervisor, Robert Carre, my faithful friend, to whom I leave my best gelding "and a ring of gold of an ounce, to be made with a dead man's hed in yt with A. B. and A. I. to be set on either side of the dead man's hed." Witnesses, William Whittingham, John Key, Thomas Newham, William Johnson.

Thomas Irby, of Boston, co. Lincoln, Esq. Dated 20 Sept., 1613, proved 2 Nov., 1613. P.C.C., 100 Capell.

To my cousin Thomas Welby, my godson, son of Richard Welby, of Moulton, Gent., £20. To my servants Edward Waterfall £3, and Thomas Grymyald £4, and to each a mourning cloak. Mourning cloaks to my brother Sir Francis South, Kt., to my sister Dame Anne South his wife, to Robert Balham, Esq., to my sister Alice his wife, to Mr. Cotton, preacher of Boston, to Anthony Irby, Esq., my father. To poor of Boston £4. To Mr. Barron, Dr. of Physic, "being my phisition in all my extremitye of sickness, a quilt silver sute which my father gave me in Chrystemas," and £5. To Mathew Wake £3 which he owes me. To John Howdell my servant 40s. I forgive Ann Write wife of Raalpe Write her rent, and I give her 10s. I give 4 gowns to 4 old men on this side of the water, being the west side of the town of Boston. To 4 men to carry me to the church 6s. each. I forgive all debts owing to me in Boston "by poore meane men." To William Bennett, Esq., 20s. Residue of goods and chattels to my wife Ann. Exor., my brother-in-law Sir Francis South, and I give him £50. Supervisor, my well beloved father-in-law Sir Daniel Yunque, Kt.; and I give him £3. 6s. 8d. for a ring. Witnesses, William Bennett, John Reeve, An Wright.

Anthony Irby, of Southerton (*i.e.*, Sutterton), co. Lincoln, Gent. Nuncupative. Dated 24 April, 1638, proved 2 May, 1638. P.C.C., 56 Lee.

The sum of £650 is due to me and my father John Irby, of Southerton, Gent., from John Browne, of Poynton, co. Linc., Gent., on or about 2 May next, in respect of certain parcels of land, &c., sold to him, situate in Southerton or about the limits or territories thereof: of which sum my part or portion to be divided equally into 3 parts, of which one is for Elizabeth my now wife, one for Katherine my daughter, and one to that child or children that my said wife is now with child withal. The same triple division to apply to all the benefit, commodity, or advantage which may accrue to me as result of a certain suit in the Court of March and Liveries between me and John Whittingham, of Lincoln, Gent., concerning 18 acres of land in or near Sutherton. All my goods and chattels of every sort, and all debts owing to me. to be divided in the same way. The portions of my children to be put out for their benefit until 21 if male, and till 21 or marriage if female. If any of said children die before expiration of term that share to go to survivor or survivors. Exor., Edward Godbed, of London, Clerk; and I give him £10. All debts and funeral charges to be paid before distribution of legacies. Witnesses, John James, James Holmes, Susan Chapman, Margaret Kitson, Anne Monday.

Frances Irby, of Snoring, co. Norfolk, Widow. Dated 1 Aug., 1664, proved 9 Nov., 1665. P.C.C., 471 Aylett.

To be buried in churchyard of Great Snoring. To the 3 children of Andrew Woods and Dorothy his wife of North Barsham £5 each at 21. To said Dorothy £15. To John Hunwick, of Stibbard, 40s. To Anne Spooner, wife of Giles Spooner, to Mary Hunwick, to Anne King, to Rose

Hunwick, to Frances Hunwick, 20s. each. To Elizabeth Jekell, daughter of John Jekell, to Frances Jekell, to Ann Jekell, £5 each. House, stables, barns, "with a pickle adjoining thereunto," orchard, &c., to John Jekell, of Great Snoring, blacksmith, and his heirs, subject to payment of aforesaid legacies. Sundry household goods to Dorothy Woods, John Hunwick, Florence Jekell, daughter of John, and Thomas Hunwick. Exor., John Jakell. Witnesses, John Vivars, minister, and Giles Moulton.

Edward Irbie, Citizen and Grocer, of London. Dated 27 Feb., 1617, proved 24 March, 1617. P.C.C., 34 Weldon.

Lands and tenements within city of London and elsewhere to my wife Katherine for life: remainder as to messuage in the Minorities without Aldgate, and 2 messuages in parish of S. Michael, Cornhill, in one of which I dwell, with the shop thereto belonging, to my son Edward and his heirs, and as to residue to my son John and his heirs. Annuities of £20 to each of my sons Edward and Thomas at age of 21, charged on the above property. Mentions daughters Anne, Winifred, and Katherine. To my brother-in-law Ralph Yardlie and his wife £5. To my brother-in-law Richard Hine and his wife £5. To said Yardlie's children 40s. each. To said Hine's son 40s. To my cousin Robert Bostock, Master of Arts, £5. To relief of 3 poor parishioners out of Ludgate, £3. I will and give a "runninge banquet" decent and fit to entertain my friends and neighbours that shall accompany my body to the grave. Executrix, my wife Katherine. Overseers, George Sayre, Gent., and Nicholas Reeve; to each of them 40s. £40 to my brother-in-law George Yardley now being in Virginia as is supposed, on condition that he assure the great messuage in Southwark called The Horne to the use of my son Edward and his heirs as is limited in certain articles indented between his brother Ralph Yardley on the one part and myself on the other part. Witnesses, Nicholas Reeve, scrivener, William Manlie, his servant, Thomas Taylor, Edward Pierce, servant to said scrivener.

George Irbye, of the parish of S. Saviour's, Southwark, co. Surrey, Weaver. Dated 23 Nov., 1624, proved 1 Dec., 1624. P.C.C., 109 Byrde.

Being in this present sickness, weak in body. To be buried in parish of S. Saviour's, where I am a parishioner. To my eldest son Richard Irby £10. To my eldest daughter Frances Parker, wife of Richard Parker, the house in which her husband now liveth, during the continuance of the lease thereof, paying no rent. To the two children of the said Richard Parker, John and Steven, £5 each at 21. To my daughter Sarah £10. Residue between my 4 children, George Irby, Rebecca, Deborah, and Martha, at 21 or marriage. For bringing up my said 4 children "last nominated" the rents of my leases or lands. If that serve not, my administrators to take more out of the goods and estate. Administrators, my cousin Mr. Thomas Irby, Minister, Alexander Rippen, and Andrew Lucas; to each of them 40s. Sealed by testator and signed by his mark. Witnesses, William Hunt, Humphrey Bacheleur, scrivener.

Walter Irby, of the parish of Akeemarke, co. Northampton, in the country of Virginia, Planter. Dated 24 Sep., 1651, proved 30 July, 1652. P.C.C., 149 Bowyer.

To my mother Olive Irby, alias Cooper, widow, all and singular my goods chattels and plantation in Virginia the same to be paid surrendered and delivered to her at and as soon as she can possess herself or others of

the same after my decease. Also to her for life all my land house and tenement in the parish of Hoggstrupp (Hogsthorpe) in the county of Lincoln, now in tenure of Ann Dobett, widow: after her death to the right heirs of my late aunt Irbye. Exors., my mother Olive Irbye. Witnesses, Robert May, Thomas Wilson, scrivener.

Walter Irby, of Trumpington, co. Cambridge, Gent. Dated 6 Aug., 1651, proved, by Katherine Brownige alias Masterman, 18 Sep., 1655. P.C.C., 196 Aylett. This testator seems to be the same Walter Irby who was a Planter in Virginia, and whose will, proved 30 July, 1652, has been given in abstract above. The land in Hogsthorpe, occupied by Ann Dobett, being mentioned in both wills, appears to leave no doubt on this point. Yet this will is the earlier in date, and would be rendered inoperative by a later will, unless there were some informality. But there is no mention of the probate of the other will being cancelled. The testator died before 30 July, 1652; so that it was more than three years after his death before probate was granted to the will now given.

To my mother Ollive Cooper for life all my lands, tenements, &c., in Wilbraham, co. Cambridge. My executrix to pay also to my mother an annuity of 40s. To children of my cousin Abbott, of London, scrivener, £20 in equal shares. To Katherine Brownige, of Cambridge, spinster, my uncle Mr. Edward Brownige's natural sister, all my messuage, one cottage, and 23 acres of land arable and pasture in Hoggstrupp, Mumby, and Anderby, co. Lincoln, lately let by lease in writing to Ann Dobett, widow, in fee simple. Residue to said Katherine Brownige. Witnesses, Richard Pettitt, notary public, Samuel Newton, James Kaington.

**883.—Wills of Tache Family.**—This family was connected by marriage with Irby of Boston, and the three abstracts here given will illustrate the record of that family. They are also interesting because they have reference to Widows' Almshouses in Whaplode, which have been recently the subject of some dispute.

Thomas Tache, of Quaplod, co. Lincoln. Dated 7 Nov., 1496, proved, at Lambeth, 10 Feb., 1497. P.C.C., 13 Horne. In Latin.

To be buried at church of the Blessed Mary the Virgin at Quaplod. To high altar 8d. To each other altar 4d. For a light for the crucifix 4d. For a light for the sacrament 2d. To fabric of church 20d. To poor children of S. Katherine without the walls of Lincoln 4d. To precentor of S. John Baptist, Whaplode, 4d. Exors., John Tash, my son, and Alice Tash, my wife. Supervisors, Hugh Ward, of Boston, and Oliver Lokwode,

of Quaplod. Witnesses, John Sargeant, Gent., Oliver Lokwood, chaplain, John Spencer, and others.

My capital message to my wife Alice for life; remainder to my son John and heirs of his body; remainder to my daughter Agnes, wife of William Jerves, and heirs of her body; remainder to the vicar and warden of Whaplode for the needs of the church, and for the souls of me and my wife, son, and daughter. Mentions 2 acres of land late William Harkweld, lying between lands of William Pindar, west, and William Jerves, east, abutting on land of Gilbert Pulvertofte, south, and the high road, north. Residue of land to my son John, he to pay the debts I owe at Norwich. To Alice my wife the goods which came to me at marriage, and half of other goods, remaining half to my son and daughter. To my son the debts due to me in counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, Essex, and elsewhere. Wife to pay my debts in Whaplode, Moulton, Pinchbeck, Spalding, and Holbeck.

William Tashe, of Waplode, co. Lincoln, Yeoman. Dated 30 Dec., 1552, proved 10 Jan., 1553. P.C.C., 1 Tashe.

To poor men's box of Whaplode 10s. For my mortuary according to the King's Majesty's acts thereof made. To church work at Whaplode 10s. To cathedral church of Lincoln 12d. At my burial to 40 householders that have most need 6d. each; the same on the 7th day; and 4d. each to the same on the 30th day. To be distributed among strangers at my burial where most need is 10s., not offending the King's laws and statutes. To my wife the house I dwell in with 4 acres of land adjoining for 10 years, then to my son William and the heirs of his body. To William Tashe, son of my brother Robert Tashe, £10, on condition that he lay no claim to the 2 acres behind my house. To John Tashe, son of my brother Robert, £4. To Isabell, my brother Robert's daughter, 40s. and sundry household goods. To his daughter Beatrice, the same, at 21 or marriage. To Robert Skarlette, my godson, 20s. To Isabell Jessop and her children 6s. 8d. To Custans, wife of Robert Browne, of Whaplode, 6s. 8d. To Thomas Brandon, my wife's son, 20s. at 21. To Grace Cowpelande some household goods. To Mystres Beatrice Ogle 8s. An angel each to her son Mr. Thomas, to Mystres Ellen Welby, to Mystres Fleete, to my godson Henry Walpolle, to Mystres Awdry Manne, to Nicholas Ogle. To each of my other godchildren both men and women 12d. To Martene Medcalf 10s. Lands, tenements, &c. in realm of England to William Tashe my son and heir apparent and heirs of his body, with remainder over in fee to Richard Ogle, Esq., and his heirs, according to deed of 28 Dec., 6 Edw. VI. To each exor. £4. Residue to my son William, he to enter on all his lands and goods at 21; at age of 14 to have 20s. "to put in his purse," and so every year till 18, and then 40s. each year till 21. If he die under 21, one half of goods to be divided among my brother Robert's children, one quarter to highways in Whaplode or elsewhere in "Whappen of Ellowe," remainder among poor people in parishes of Holland. To my wife Johanne £50 in pursuance of covenant. Exors., Richard Ogle, of Pinchbeck, Esq., and Thomas Welby, of Moulton, Gent., who are to have government of my son. Witnesses, Thomas Fleete, Gent., John Manne, Gent., Edward Calvalley, Aleyne Dawson, Adam Boothe, Thomas Corke, &c.

William Tashe, Yeoman, of Moulton, co. Lincoln, Stowmarket (co. Suffolk), Whaplode, and Cubitt (co. Lincoln). Dated 24 Oct., 1580, proved 12 Nov., 1580. P.C.C., 45 Arundel.



To cathedral church of Lincoln 12d. To church of Moulton (no amount given). To John Scarlett, son of Robert Scarlett, of Stowmarket, and his heirs, one messuage in Whaplode whereof 13 acres are contained in a pair of indentures between Mrs. Alice Tash, now Mrs. Alice Irbye, of Whaplode, and John Chynnock, late of the same. To Robert Scarlett, son of Robert Scarlett, and his heirs, a pasture containing 5 acres in Whaplode, in Murgein Lane, in tenure of Williams, and 6 acres in Whaplode near Stump Cross, in tenure of John Walpool. To George Scarlett, son of Robert Scarlett, and his heirs, 5 acres of pasture in Whaplode abutting upon Cobgate, south, and the highway to Spalding, north, the said George to pay £10 to some good and honest master by the advice of his father and brother John, for apprenticing my kinsman William Hargate. To Richard Scarlett, son of Robert Scarlett, and his heirs, 4 acres of arable land in Whaplode, near the house of Thomas Idon, in tenure of Stephen Kyrbye. To Agnes Scarlett, daughter of Robert Scarlett, and her heirs, 5 acres of arable land in Whaplode in tenure of William Hawker. To William Chapman, my kinsman and servant, and his heirs, all my part of pasture land in Great Runners, containing 16 acres; if he is discontented, and troubles or molests any person concerning any legacy in this will, the 16 acres to be sold and proceeds distributed to poor of Whaplode and Cubitt (Cowbit). To Johanna, daughter of Luce Chinnocke, of Moulton, one messuage in Moulton in tenure of Anthony Betteriche, one cottage being copyhold of Spalding fee, where William Gye dwells, and 3 acres of arable land by Spalding highway, abutting on Cunygarth, and 5 acres of pasture in North Meadow. If she die before 21, then to her mother for life. The copyhold has been surrendered to the use of my will into the hands of George Hall. Mother Gye to have her dwelling house without rent for life. Residue of lands to be sold within 2 years, and to be employed as follows. To Luce Chinnocke, wife of Thomas Chinnocke, £10. To Joan her daughter £10 at 21 or marriage. To Richard Durande, son of John Durande, of Crowland, for his better education, £10. To Margerie, wife of Mr. Jupes, of Spalding, and to her sister Lettis, wife of John Hargate, of Cubitt, £6. 13s. 4d. each. To Thomas Trayleforth, of Cubitt, the younger, £5. 13s. 4d. £20 to be employed on repairing the free schoolhouse of John Herox, of Moulton, and the re-edifying of the mansion house and buildings thereto appertaining. Surplus of price of lands to be disposed of for such purposes as exors. should think most charitable and for God's glory. Goods and chattels bequeathed to different persons as specifically named. Most of household stuff to Joan Chynnocke: "these things to be praised by honest men and to be delivered to Thomas Chinnocke to the use of the said Joan." To Luce Chynnocke "all my spices and grocerie, all my yarne and 6 warps of fishe, and all my hangings and painted clothes, and my little table in the parlour." To Thomas Chynnocke all wood in the garden, all my coals, all my swine, and "all my pullen" (poultry). He may also have best kine and 10 best sheep at a valuation. To William Chapman £10, and my bay trotting mare, with saddle and bridle, &c. To Thomas Taylor the elder, of Cowbit, 20s. To Thomas Markham, of the same, 20s. To Thomas Smelie, of Whaplode, 40s. To Agnes Garsbie, my servant, a red two-year-old heifer. To my godson Samuel Browne, 40s. To every other godchild 3s. 4d. To George Hall of Weston all the "compasst" (*i.e.*, manure) in my yards. To be buried in Whaplode church if I die within one day's journey. Exors. to provide a godly sermon at my burial. To be distributed then to fourscore poor persons of Moulton and Whaplode 26s 8d. To 12 of poorest of Cubitt 4s. To Robert Scarlett, of Stowmarket, my bald and blind gelding for a token of friendly remembrance. My little gray nag to old Mr. Howes. All my apparel to William Chapman, except better cloak to John Scarlett. Six yards of new cloth between Thomas Chapman and William Chapman. Residue to be sold by

exors. for some good godly and charitable purpose and use to the glory of God.

It is under this clause of William Tashe's will that Mr. Antonie Irby erected the Whaplode Alms-houses.

Exors., Mr. Antonie Irbye, of Whaplode, and Mr. Charles Browne, of Spalding; to each £3. 6s. 8d. Supervisors and Overseers, Mr. Rawlins, Schoolmaster of Moulton, and Mr. George Hall, of Weston; to each £3. 6s. 8d. Witnesses, John Rawlins, Thomas Chinnock, John Wolsey, John Thorpe, George Hall. To Thomas Chinnock timber in streets and ditches, and the horse mill, and a lead. Also to him and his heirs piece of ground by the Church way bought of Wrighte. Some clothing to Thomas Smelie and his wife. To wife of Richard Martin 10s. Whereas I did give to William Chapman all apparel except best cloak, I also except my best doublet "because it is not fit for him to wear," which is to be sold. To Luce Chinnocke all my wife's linen, and 2 rings of gold, and one silver whistle. To Susanna Tashe 40s. To Thomas Chinnock all my corn and grain. Witnesses Thomas Rawlins, Thomas Peirce, Thomas Smelie.

These wills are interesting as showing what I have often found in my researches, namely, that the leading families in South Lincolnshire generally intermarried, and that they were all more or less related. Although their wills were frequently proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, and the makers of such wills were generally born, married, buried in the district.

W. E. FOSTER, F.S.A.

**884.—Headley Family (679).**—Peter Headley was an active and energetic medical practitioner at Whittlesey in the early part of the last century. He retired in 1862 after practising for 46 years. His eminent services during the cholera visitation were recognised by his fellow-townsmen, who presented him with a very handsome silver cup and an appropriate address. He died at the age of 86, in 1875, leaving one son, the Rev. Alexander Headley, and a grandson, now (1901) the Rev. Alexander Arthur Headley, Rector of New Alresford, co. Hants. Peter Headley married (second wife) in 1856, Jane Eggar, daughter of the late Samuel Eggar, of Wryde, &c., for whom see Vol. III., pp. 374–5.

I am doubtful as to the connection suggested between the Headleys of Cambridgeshire, and the Hetleys of Huntingdonshire.

S. EGAR.

**885.—Rainfall in the Fens.**—The rainfall at Boston in 1900 amounted to 26·62 inches: the average for the previous 70 years was 22·93 inches, and for the previous 20 years 22·83 inches. The greatest fall in one day occurred on 30 December, when 1·75 inches was registered. The number of days on which rain fell was 145. In February the rainfall was 4·04 inches, the average fall for ten days amounted to ·30 inch. The rainfall in January and February came to 7·36 inches, or 3·75 inches above average. This was the largest amount recorded for these two months during the last half century. The water in the Witham rose to 13ft. 1in. at the Grand Sluice, or within two feet of the highest flood recorded before the Outfall opened.

At Maxey Vicarage the amount of rainfall recorded for the year was 22·95 inches, which fell on 173 days: the greatest fall on one day being 1·87 inches on 30th December. The average rainfall for the previous 18 years had been 21·65 inches.

W. H. WHEELER.

**886.—The Stamford Post.**—A copy of this paper, the heading of which is here reproduced, was lent for exhibition at Stamford, where it received considerable attention, as being probably the first Stamford newspaper. This issue was No. 97, so the commencement of the publication may be dated from June, 1710; while the Stamford Mercury is said to have been established in 1712.\*

S. EGAR.

Wryde.

THE STAMFORD POST

or an account of the most Material News

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

From Thursday April 10<sup>d</sup> to April 17<sup>th</sup> 1712

*WHEREAS this paper is designed to be continued for the future on a whole Sheet viz. The News on the one half Sheet and a Miscellanny on the other consisting of the heads of any material, pamphlet, or paper that is published in London, and several other useful and diverting Subjects; These are therefore to give notice to such Gentlemen as are willing either to instruct or divert the public. If they please to send any subject prose or verse &c It shall be thankfully received and carefully incerted.*

\* See Art. 579. Vol. XI, No. 21, of *The Stamford Mercury*, (the earliest number in the British Museum.) was published 22 May, 1718. If the volumes are half-yearly ones, this would bring the publication of the first number of the first volume to Thursday, 1 Jan., 1713. But this would be the historical year: and the date would have been in some documents described as 1 Jan., 1712-3. The year did not end on 31 Dec., but on 24 March. This calculation assumes that each of the first ten volumes contained a number for each Thursday in the half-year.—ED.

887.—**Cattle Salesman's Account, 1759.**—Mr. Saunders, who sent the sheep described in this account to Smithfield for sale in 1759, was a farmer and landowner at Spalding. His residence was not far from the present Cowbit Railway Station, but in Spalding parish. The account is interesting as we note the prices sheep made at Smithfield nearly 150 years ago. The charge for selling made by Mr. Stanton, only 11s. 6d., seems very small; and the drover's charge was under 50s., which is very reasonable, considering the time it would take for the sheep to be driven to London, about 100 miles.

Direct for Me at the King's Head in  
West-Smithfield.

46 Sheep sold for Mr. Saunders the 30 Day of March,  
1759.

6	Barnet .....	32...	9	12	Selling .....		11	6
6	Bluck .....	30...	9		Pens, Toll and Hurdles .....		3	10
6	Kent .....	28...	8	8	Expences and Help		3	10
5	Feast .....	28...	7		Letter .....			?
4	Wise .....	28...	5	12	Dro Chamberlin ...	2	9	?
3	Goatham .....	28...	4	4	Grass.....			?
9	Hilliat .....	24...	10	16				
3	Dodd.....	24...	3	12		3	?	?
4	Sedgwick .....	23...	4	12	To Chamberlin ...	5?	?	?
46			62	16		6[2	16	0]

Samuel Stanton

I regret that part of the sheet, where notes of interrogation are printed above, has been injured.

Lindum House,  
Aldershot.

W. E. FOSTER, F.S.A.

**888.—Bishop Piers and the Bakerian Lease.**—During the decanate of William Piers, Dean of Peterborough,\* the tenants of the Dean and Chapter were alarmed by rumours touching the validity of certain leases. Prebendary Edward Baker, who held the third stall in 1561, had, it was alleged, issued without authority leases in reversion, in fraud alike of the Chapter and of the lessees. The chapter seal was genuine; so was the green wax on which it was impressed; but the utterance of neither was fortified by corporate sanction.† In August 1566 a lease in reversion of the farm called “the Low”‡ for the term of 61 years, after the expiry of the existing lease of Anthony Chowne, had been granted to John Reyson, of Boxworth; and he, on 16 Dec., 1584, had duly assigned his interest, for valuable consideration, to the predecessor of Millicent Pratt. Pratt, hearing that his lease was not worth the parchment on which it was written, came to the custodian of the chapter records to search for the enrolment of the counterpart. Afterwards he went to the Dean, asking to enjoy his lease in reversion, and that interview led to the suit of William, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Anne, his wife, against Millicent Pratt§ and others. The defendants were in possession of the Loe farm by virtue of an assignment to Henry Pratt, grandfather of Millicent, one of the defendants, of the existing lease to Anthony Chowne, which had expired; and Dean Piers, regarding Pratt’s lease in reversion as void, had granted a lease in reversion to Jasper Mayne, who appears to have been only a nominee, his interest in the lease having been subsequently assigned for the benefit of Anne, the Bishop’s wife.

\* William Piers, S.T.P., Dean, 9 June, 1622; consecrated Bishop of Peterborough, 24 Oct., 1630; translated to Bath & Wells, Dec., 1632. Born at Oxford: M.A., Christ Church, 1609. Died 1670.

† The common seal of the monastery was, pursuant to 35 Edw. I., c. 4, in the custody of the Prior and four of the senior monks, and kept under the private seal of the Abbot; so that no liability could be incurred without the consent of the convent. All unsealed deeds and contracts, sales and alienations, were to be void.

‡ The grange at Low lay just east of the cathedral, adjoining Borough Little Fen. Some old-world farm buildings were remaining a very few years ago; but all have now been removed for the erection of a fever hospital.

§ Exch. Depns. by Comm. of 9 Charles I., East: 26.—Millicent Pratt, the defendant, was son of Anthony Pratt and Eleanor Millicent, daughter of Robert Millicent; and grandson of Henry Pratt. See Art. 834.

The depositions of the witnesses were taken at Peterborough on 17 and 18 April, 1633, before Edward Pate, William Leaffeilde, and William Bellamy, commissioners.

Anthony Greene, ck., Petty Canon, 68, said I know the Loe sometime in the possession of my godfather Anthony Chowne. The seal of the lease produced is of the same impression as that of the new lease to Jasper Mayne. Differing only that the wrong side of the seal is turned upwards. For 40 years past the Dean and Chapter have sealed with green wax. Anthony Chowne who was Organist of the Cathedral & much respected died about 62 years ago.

Clement Gregory of Alwalton, 59, born at Peterborough, was Surveyor by patent to the Dean & Chapter, he had searched their records and knew that they had used green wax since their foundation.

Doctor Pocklington: prebendary, 54, said he had seen the entry of the lease in the Register Book and doth persuade himself the Bp. of B & Wells when he was Deane did see the counterparte of Reyson's lease.

A lease of the Loe & Hamonds was made by Mr. Jasper Mayne for the benefit of the then Dean. Mayne lived in the Dean's house to teach his child.

Divers citizens, John Pancke, Richard Alfield, John Troughton, and John Browne, verger and "baillie" of the city, had heard the defendants' lease was a "Baker's lease"; and Henry Smith, D.D., prebendary of the fifth stall, aged 57, made that clear. He deposed thus:—

To the 4<sup>th</sup> interrogatory saith that he hath found in one of the Register Bookes of the Deane & Chapter of Peterb. now shewen unto him a greate parte of the said pretended lease to Reyson now in question entred & recorded therein. But this deponent haveing both now & heretofore taken precise viewe of that particular entry doth conceave that the s<sup>d</sup> entry of that particular was undulie entred or foysted into the said Booke for theis reasons following: first, for that there being a table or Index of leases & graunts registered in the same book this particular lease now in question is not once named in the same index or table: secondly, for that the same index hath references to the several leases of the booke or Register afs<sup>d</sup> where the graunts of such things are or should be registered wch are mencioned in the same Index: And it appeareth by the Index that leases of lands in Lincolnshire granted to Mr. Will. Lacye was Registered in the second & third leaves of the same book and the office of Surveyorship in the fourth leaffe, but one of the said graunts wholly and parte of the other graunt last before menconed made to the said Will. Lacye are not to be found in the same booke at all neither in theis leaves nor in any other place of the said booke, but that parte and soe much of the said pretended lease in question as is now extant in the same Register-book is inserted in the third leafe of the said book and written with a different hand from the former entries therein as by the same book whereunto this deponent referreth himselfe touching all the particulars of his answeere may more fully appeare. And this deponent is further induced to think that the said entry is foisted into the said Register booke for that he hath heard and doth verily believe That there hath beene heretofore divers leases forged & false entries made by the procurement & means of one Mr. Baker sometymes prebendary of the said Church of Peterb. who held in his custodie (as it is reported) the Keyes, seale & records of the said churche

which false leases were commonly called Bakerian leases, some of which leases have been brought in and new leases taken by the tenants of the same: but whether the lease in question was one of these Bakerian leases or not this deponent knoweth not but suspecteth the same.

Richard Beale, aged 85, was an important witness called for the defendants. He said:—

The seal of the pretended lease agrees with that of the D & C in wax and print. I saw the enrolment 30 years since. It is not altered. I am now Auditor of the revenues of the D & C and chief Porter of both the gates of the Church and during the time of four Deans have had custody at divers times of the Keyes & charges of the records. I verily believe that the now complainant the Lord Bp. was when he was Dean made privie of the enrolment of the said lease made to Reyson. The lease granted to Jasper Mayne was made when the Lord Bp. was Dean, on what consideration I know not, but the s<sup>d</sup>. Jasper was tutor to the son of the Dean.

There seems to have been a good deal of *animus* against the late Dean. The date makes it obvious he can have had nothing to do with the fraud. Gunton says of him:—

He was a man of excellent parts, very vigilant and active, and had a good secular understanding and spirit in looking after the estates and profits of the Church.

Dr. Cosin, his successor in the Deanery, has left this entry in the Chapter Book, 2nd June, 1642:—

Ordered that the rent which the Lord Bp: of Bath and Wells hath paid for the lease of Low and Hammonds meadow being 53<sup>l</sup>. 16s. 8d. be reserved for the use of the Church "sub salva custodia" until his Lordship shall be pleased to make a due account and repayment unto the Dean and Chapter of the money which he received while he was Dean here from Sir Lewis Watson for the 500 oaks in Easton\* to be employed only towards the reparation of this Cathedral Church, as appeareth both by the original lease and by the late sale and release thereof made under the chapter seal, and likewise of a certain sum of money collected in his time of our tenants for the renewing of our Charter; neither of which sums of money have been yet bestowed for the use of the Church, and ought in law and equity to be accounted and as we conceive restored to the Church again for the uses before mentioned.

The Bishop's life was full of trouble. In 1640 a petition to the House of Commons attributes to him "divers heinous crimes tending to corruption and subversion of religion." These "crimes" related to the enforcement of a more reverent

\* Great Easton cum Bringhurst, co. Leic. In Pat. Rolls, pt. 3. m. 20 (8), Hen. VII.. 25 Feb., 1486, is a licence (in consideration of prayer of Edward Abbot and the convent of Crowland) for the Abbot and Convent of Peterborough to appropriate and unite with their house the church of Brynghurst als. Eston Leictr: the vicar to be sufficiently endowed, and distribution of alms to be made through the diocesan amongst the parishioners annually.—By 15 Rich. II., c. 6, it is ordained that in every appropriation of a church the bishop shall ordain a sum to be paid yearly out of the profits of the church to the poor parishioners in aid of their sustentance. This is the original of many doles in kind.

position for the Communion Table, and of the "Book of Sports." He had excommunicated the Churchwardens of Beckington, but Archbishop Laud, when in the Tower, accepted responsibility for that ; and the penance imposed on one Foot, churchwarden of Petherton, was a punishment for a gross act of sacrilege. Foot had in the night time broken into a vault in the church, removed a dead body from a leaden coffin, and appropriated the lead. Dr. Duck, the Chancellor of the Diocese, had pronounced the sentence "that he do penance for the offence in the Cathedral Church of Wells and in the parish churches of Petherton and Taunton with a white wanne in his hand and a paper on his head with text letters declaring the nature of his said offence." Foot's offence was barbarous; the whole country rang with it; all men that heard of it detested it saying that they feared hereafter they should not be quiet in their graves. So the Bishop explained—but he owed his preferment to Archbishop Laud, and that was enough for the Commons in 1641. Committed to the Tower Bishop Piers was, with Bishop Wren of Ely, impeached before the House of Lords. During the Commonwealth he was out "on bail," and in 1660 he was restored to his see. His age obliging him to leave the work of the diocese to a coadjutor, he retired to Walthamstow, in Essex, where he died, 30 April, 1670, aged 90 years.

L.G.

### 889.—Corpus Christi Gild at Deeping S. James (865).

—A correspondent sends us an extract from the parish book of Wigtoft, in which the "church-maisters" enter this receipt:—"Item rec<sup>d</sup> of J.C. of Algarkirk for a quetheword of Will<sup>m</sup> Garrard vij<sup>s</sup>. v<sup>d</sup>." This is in the year 1484. Here "quetheword" is manifestly equivalent to "bequest." This meaning entirely suits the use of "queyword" in the Deeping S. James' Gild accounts. It is an uncommon instance of *y* used for *th* (the old English letter *thorn*) which is familiar enough in *ye*, *y<sup>s</sup>*, *y<sup>t</sup>*, for *the*, *this*, *that*.



890.—The Gentlemen's Society of Peterborough (870).—We give a further, and concluding, selection of entries of interest from the earliest Minute Book of this Society. This book is described in Art. 864. There are no entries between 12 Aug., 1738, and 3 Jan., following. "Hiatus in MS valde deflendus."

Feb. 14. 1739

Dr. Balguy V.P. & six other members. Ye Secretary communicated an original grant upon velom of Oliver St. John Lord chief Justice of y<sup>e</sup> common Bench at Westminster, & Lord of y<sup>e</sup> Manor of y<sup>e</sup> City of Peterborough & member of y<sup>e</sup> same—to W<sup>m</sup>. Parker of Peterborough Gent a Tenant of y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup> Manor of an immunity & privilege of being free & acquitted of and from y<sup>e</sup>. payment of all & all manner of Toll in or at all & singular Markets, fairs, wages, passages, Bridges & ports of y<sup>e</sup> Sea through England & without upon y<sup>e</sup>. Penalty of ten pounds to be forfeited by such as make distraint or interruption upon y<sup>e</sup>. said W<sup>m</sup>. Parker, in y<sup>e</sup> lawful exercise of his vocation or Trade in buying selling or otherwise, according to ancient charters therein specified granted & confirm'd by y<sup>e</sup>. devout King Edgar and also Richard y<sup>e</sup>. First, & other Kings & Queens of England to y<sup>e</sup> Tenants of y<sup>e</sup>. City of Peterboro.' Dated y<sup>e</sup>. 20 day of April in y<sup>e</sup>. year of our Lord God according to y<sup>e</sup> account used in England one thousand six hundred fifty and eight

Ol: St Johne against his Seal.

Feb: 28. 1739

The Secretary communicated y<sup>e</sup>. copy of an Inscription upon a black marble in y<sup>e</sup>. West Front of this Minster near to y<sup>e</sup>. Door, and now quite worn out.

Quod mori potuit  
Præstantissimæ Fœminæ  
COMPTON EMERY  
Filiæ JOHANNIS TOWERS S T P  
Hujus Ecclesiæ quondam Episcopi  
Vidux Roberti Rowell LL D  
Nec non charissimæ conjugis  
RICHARDI EMERY · GEN:  
In hoc tumultu  
Depositum

Feb:	}	{	4 <sup>o</sup>
Ætat			54
An Dõ.			1683

On the death of the "worthy President" of the Society, the Rev. White Kennet (*sic*) was on 9 April, 1739, unanimously elected to be President.

June 13. 1739.

Mr. Marshall V.P. & 4 other members agreed & order'd y<sup>t</sup>. any number of members under five meeting in y<sup>e</sup>. Society room on Wednesday evening & drinking a bottle of wine shall pay only six pence a piece.

Aug. 1. 1739

The president communicated a letter from y<sup>e</sup>. Rev<sup>d</sup>. Dr Pearce Dean of Winchester wherein he returns thanks to y<sup>e</sup>. Society for their compliments paid him by their order in a letter from y<sup>e</sup>. Secretary upon his Promotion to y<sup>t</sup>. Dignity: & in a particular manner expresses his good wishes to & approbation of y<sup>e</sup>. laudable design of our Institution.

Aug. 8. 1739

The president & five other members, y<sup>e</sup>. Secretary communicated to y<sup>e</sup>. Society y<sup>e</sup>. humble Petition of y<sup>e</sup>. Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup>. Soak of Peterborough within y<sup>e</sup>. County of Northampton containing about 40 towns & Villages, against y<sup>e</sup>. Undertakers there with exceptions to their act, setting forth how and wherein they abus'd y<sup>e</sup>. Parliament by their false Suggestions: & a relation of a new reviving of an old Court Project terribly to threaten those who oppose self ending designs. May 28 1650.

This Pamphlet is 4<sup>to</sup>. contains 13 Pages & sets forth very ingeniously y<sup>e</sup>. Hardships w<sup>ch</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. Inhabitants of this soak were like to suffer from y<sup>e</sup>. Incroachments & oppressions of y<sup>e</sup>. E: of Bedford & his participants with a Copy of a Warrant signed by

Fran: Quarles  
John Claypole  
W<sup>m</sup>. Leafield.

Aug. 29. 1739

The Rev<sup>d</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. President in y<sup>e</sup>. Chair & 11 other members, it was agreed & order'd y<sup>t</sup>. no extraordinary Expenses w<sup>t</sup>.ever, such as books, medals, furniture, apparatus's, painting, or any quantity of wine above one gallon at a time &c. be hereafter allow'd in y<sup>e</sup>. accounts without a written order first obtain'd & enter'd in this Book, ne quid detrimenti caperet republica.

On 10 Oct., 1739, M<sup>r</sup>. Cox was appointed Treasurer in place of M<sup>r</sup>. Marshall: D<sup>r</sup>. Balguy app<sup>d</sup> Secretary instead of M<sup>r</sup>. Neve, but he declined; and M<sup>r</sup>. Neve was desired to continue it.

Mar. 19. 1739: 40

M<sup>r</sup>. Neve V.P. & six other members, y<sup>e</sup>. Secretary presented to y<sup>e</sup>. Society from M<sup>r</sup>. Sparke y<sup>e</sup>. Initial Letter of a Deed executed by King Henry y<sup>e</sup>. 8<sup>th</sup>, A.D. 1541, within y<sup>e</sup>. Letter H. y<sup>e</sup>. King is represented sitting & in his right hand holding out a Deed to about 8 clergymen y<sup>t</sup>. receive it upon their knees, with a group of several other figures standing by as witnesses to y<sup>e</sup>. same. From y<sup>e</sup>. date it might possibly be y<sup>e</sup>. grant of y<sup>e</sup>. first erection of this Episcopal See & Chapter after y<sup>e</sup>. dissolution of y<sup>e</sup>. Monastery. The figures are all neatly drawn & colour'd, & as it seem'd to have some relation to this Church was thought not unworthy a place in our Museum.

June 18. 1740

At w<sup>ch</sup>. meeting it was agreed upon Nem: Con: to draw up an ordinance or statute of Declaration, (w<sup>ch</sup>. see Pag. 9) in order to prevent any misapplication, or selfish designs of any future members. That whereas y<sup>e</sup>. present regular Members have at their own great expence and pains, as well as by y<sup>e</sup>. Benefaction of many Honorary members, got together a considerable Number of Books, prints, medals and other curiosities, to a considerable value, we therein declare it our original Intention y<sup>t</sup>. none of those things shall ever become y<sup>e</sup>. private property of any or all y<sup>e</sup>. members thereof; y<sup>t</sup>. none may hereafter be tempted to break it only for y<sup>e</sup>. hopes of Sharing y<sup>e</sup>. plunder: But y<sup>t</sup>. in case of a Dissolution of this Society, (w<sup>ch</sup>. we cannot suppose will ever happen, so long as Learning & Friendship shall flourish at Peterborough) then these things to be repositied in y<sup>e</sup>. Library of this Cathedral Church & in y<sup>e</sup>. mean time a fair Catalogue to be deliver'd into y<sup>e</sup>. hands of y<sup>e</sup>. Register of y<sup>e</sup>. Dean & Chapter to be supply'd once every year at [blank] with y<sup>e</sup>. additions of y<sup>e</sup>. past year

Sep. 3. 1740

The Secretary communicated to y<sup>e</sup>. Society y<sup>e</sup>. Original Subscription for building of a publick Cross or Town house 1669, with y<sup>e</sup>. names of y<sup>e</sup>. several Benefactors & how much each person contributed towards y<sup>e</sup>. building.

Sepr. 17. 1740

The Secretary communicated an Original Petition with y<sup>e</sup>. hands of above an hundred Subscribers of y<sup>e</sup>. Principal Inhabitants of this City to y<sup>e</sup>. Right Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Oliver St John Lord Chief Justice of y<sup>e</sup>. Court of Common Bench at Westminster, wherein in y<sup>e</sup>. first place they acknowledge his Lordships many & great Favours towards them, particularly for preserving y<sup>e</sup>. Minster, & assigning it as a place of publick worship for them : & for procuring his Highnesses Letters Patents for y<sup>e</sup>. relief of y<sup>e</sup>. late sufferers by a fire here, &c.

1 The first Article of their petition is y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. flagg Fenn should be stinted or rated in proportion to y<sup>e</sup>. Quality & quantity thereof, & y<sup>e</sup>. number of estates of y<sup>e</sup>. respective Commoners in y<sup>e</sup>. same.

2 That upon regulating y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. common Fenn a certain yearly rate or payment of money be set upon y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Tenants not exceeding £200 per an. towards y<sup>e</sup>. maintenance of two preaching Ministers to officiate in y<sup>e</sup>. Minster & parish Church & for reparation of y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Churches.

3 That y<sup>e</sup>. Reversion of y<sup>e</sup>. Impropriation & y<sup>e</sup>. Lease of y<sup>e</sup>. great Tythes & other oblations be granted by y<sup>e</sup>. state for y<sup>e</sup>. uses above.

4 That his Lordship w<sup>d</sup>. use his Interest for procuring an Act of Parliament for y<sup>e</sup>. same, &c.

May 6 1741

The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Bradfield V.P. in y<sup>e</sup>. chair & 12 other members, y<sup>e</sup>. right hon<sup>ble</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. Earl Fitzwilliam, & y<sup>e</sup>. Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Edward Wortley & Armstead Parker Esq<sup>r</sup> present. His Lordship was pleased to thank us for admitting him a member, & likewise subscribed to our Rules & orders, & exprest his approbation of our Institution, & promis'd to encourage & support it. After they had honour'd our meeting with their presence for about an hour we were invited to an Entertainment made by his Lordship & Mr. Wortley our present Representatives in parliament at y<sup>e</sup>. Angel.

Dec<sup>r</sup>. 15. 1742

The Society being just met upon a cry of fire in Westgate we immediately broke up to go & give our help & advice, it was an excessive cold night & y<sup>e</sup>. water froze almost as soon as it fell from y<sup>e</sup>. Engine to y<sup>e</sup>. ground so great damage was done.

On 20 Aug., 1740, was communicated an epitaph said to have been written on Mary, Queen of Scots, in these words :—

Regibus orta, anxii Reges, Reginaque vixi  
Ter nupta, et tribus orta viris, tria regna reliqui;  
Gellus opes, Scotus cunas, habet Angla Sepulchrum.

On 29 Oct., in the same year, was reported the legend or seal of Abbot Acharius, attached to a deed c. 1200 :—

Signum Burgense cruce, clave refulget et ense.

It would have been a satisfaction if a drawing of the seal had been given. Armorial bearings at such a date were very uncommon, though not unknown. In latter times the key and sword do not appear on the same coat of arms, the crossed

keys being appropriated to the Bishop, and the crossed swords to the Dean and Chapter.

In 1741 Earl Fitzwilliam gave Rymer's *Fœdera*, in 20 volumes, to the Society. In 1742 the Society contributed five guineas to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The last meeting recorded in the book was held on 2 Mar., 1743.

**891.—Whittlesey.**—These notes relating to the ancient history of this place are extracted from an old manuscript book, and have been forwarded by the Rev. Colin E. B. Bell, Vicar of S. Mary's, Whittlesey. No authorities are given.

Whitelesey Sancti Andreae.

Herveius Episcopus permisit monachis Eliensibus possidere Whiteleseyam infra Insulam. Nigellus item et Innocens II. confirmat eisdem Whiteleseyam.

Nigellus Episcopus dat in perpetuam eleemosynam scriptorio Ecclesiae Eliensis, ad libros ejusdem Ecclesiae faciendos et emendandos, Ecclesiam de Whiteleseye, cum tota decima Domini et parochianorum et omnibus rebus eidem Ecclesiae pertinentibus, et Papa Honorius et prior et conventus confirmant donum.

- 1389 Jul. 7. Indulgentia 40 dierum concessa auxiliantibus ad capellam beati Petri de Whitelesey.
- 1391 Oct. 5. Indulgentia concessa auxiliantibus ad sustentationem et relevamen pauperis viri Adæ Rypp de Witlesey, qui quoddam hospitale pauperum in dicta villa de Witleseye incipit, sed id finire suæ facultates non suppetunt.
- 1403 Jan. 27. Episcopus licentiam concessit parochianis Ecclesiarum parochialium Beatae Mariæ et Beati Andreae in vico seu hamletta de Estrye et in Cotes, ut possint construere capellam in dicto vico de Estrye, eo quod certis temporibus anni ad Ecclesiam parochialem prædictam propter inundaciones aquarum et alia discrimina viarum pro sacris et sacramentalibus recipiendis accedere, nec divinis officiis interesse, præsertim diebus . . . temporibus et festivis ut tenentur sine magna difficultate et periculo non valent.
- 1404 June 26. Indulgentia concessa omnibus auxiliantibus ad constructionem capellæ sive oratorii in vico seu hamletta de Estrye in parochia de Witeleseye Eliensis Dioceseos de novo construendi, ad cujus constructionem dicti vici seu hamlettæ inhabitantium facultates non suppetunt, nisi aliunde per eleemosynas Christi fidelium succurratur eisdem.
- 1434 June 13. Licentia concessa Eccl. . . commorantibus in vico seu Hamletta de Estrye et in Cotes, ut in capella sive oratorio in dicta Hamletta de Estrye noviter in honorem Sanctæ Trinitatis constructa, si ad hoc decens et honestum fuerit, divina audiant.
- 1463 Aug. Dom. Willelmus Straptoft, Johannes Hore, et Johannes Chaplyn, Capellani Capellæ de Ildernale in Wittlesseye singuli percipiunt c<sup>s</sup>.
- 1487 July 5. Ricardus Trugurlond, Capellanus parochialis de Wytlessey, habet stipendium ad valorem octo marcarum per annum, et infra 10<sup>li</sup>, et solvit subsidium concessum Archiepiscopo in Synodo Cleri 6s. 8d.

- D<sup>s</sup> Thomas de Eldrenall habet idem stipendium et solvit similiter.  
 D<sup>s</sup> Michael Clerk, Capellanus ibidem, habet idem aut majus stipendium, sed non solvit quia alit matrem. Item D<sup>s</sup> Robertus Cape, capellanus ibidem, habet idem aut majus stipendium, sed non solvit quia indictatus fuit.
- 1454 Testamentum Johannis Wodfoul Capellani et heremitæ Capellæ Sanctæ Mariæ de Heldernale.
- 1525 July 20. Dominus Episcopus licentiam concessit D<sup>no</sup> Johanni, Connerensi et Dunensi Episcopo, ad dedicandam et consecrandam capellam de Eldernall, ac calices, superaltaria, et cætera ornamenta ecclesiastica, propter abusum, vetustatem, deformitatem, et ineptitudinem, prout sibi visum fuerit, expedienda, suspendenda, et interdicens, atque alia similia de novo consecranda et benedicenda, &c., ita tamen ut per hujusmodi licentiam et consecrationem nullum præjudicium matri Ecclesiæ generetur.
- 1525 Jan. 11. D<sup>s</sup> Nicholaus Episcopus concessit licentiam suam Venerabili in Christo patri D<sup>no</sup> Roberto, permissione divina Cunerensi et Dunensi Episcopo, Abbati Monasterii de Thorney, suæ Eliensis dioceseos, Capellam Beatæ Mariæ de Aldernale dedicandi et consecrandi, necnon altaria et superaltaria, calices, vestimenta sacerdotalia, et alia ornamenta Ecclesiastica, tam ad dictam capellam B. Mariæ, quam ad Monasterium prædictum de Thorney, atque ad Ecclesiam parochialem de Wytelesey, pertinentia et spectantia consecrandi et benedicendi, parvulos et adultos quoscumque infra decanatum de Wisbiche confirmandi, ac etiam primam tonsuram quibuscumque clericis et literatis ipsam habere et recipere volentibus, ac etiam omnes tam sacros quam minores ordines commonachis et confratribus suis dicti monasterii, dummodo ad hoc habiles et idonei reperiantur, et aliud canonicum non obsistit impedimentum, conferendi et celebrandi, donec et quousque &c.
- 1525 Feb. 28. Ricardus Grounde of Wittlessey S. Mary in his last will orders his body to be buried in Our Lady's Chapel\* there, and gives to the adorning of the Holy Sacrament of the Altar there 3s. 4d. He gives to the said church two steers, to the church of S. Andrew one steer, to the chapel of Estrye a cow, and to the Vicar of S. Mary's a cow and a calf.

The information given in the above notes may be thus summarised.

Bishop Hervè (1109–31) gave permission to the monks of Ely to possess Whittlesey. Bishop Nigel (1133–69) and Pope Innocent II. (1130–43) confirmed the permission.

Bishop Nigel granted to the library of Ely, to make and repair books, the church of Whittlesey with all its tithes and belongings; and Pope Honorius and the Prior and Convent confirmed the gift. (But this statement involves an anachronism. Pope Honorius II. died 14 Feb., 1130: Nigel was consecrated Bishop of Ely 1 Oct., 1133. Pope Honorius, indeed, died before Bishop Hervè.)

\* Mistake of the copyist for "church." See this will given at full in Gibbons' *Ely Episcopal Records*, p. 219. Richard Ground lived at Eastrea.

- 1389 Indulgence of 40 days to the helpers of the chapel of S. Peter's, Whittlesey. Where was this chapel?
- 1391 Indulgence to those contributing to the relief of Adam Rypp, who had begun to build a hospital for the poor, but his means were insufficient to finish it.
- 1403 Licence to the parishioners of Whittlesey to construct a chapel in the hamlet of Eastrea and in Coates, because the inhabitants there at certain times of the year, by reason of floods and other difficulties, could not get to their parish church, and in particular at great feasts when they were bound to be present, without great difficulty and peril.
- 1404 Indulgence to helpers in the building of a chapel at Eastrea, the inhabitants of the hamlet having not sufficient means to build one, unless some assistance was given by the alms of faithful Christian men.
- 1434 Licence to inhabitants of Eastrea and Coates to attend Divine Service in the newly erected chapel or oratory at Eastrea dedicated to the Holy Trinity, if it were suitable and fit.
- 1463 The three Chaplains of Eldernall had each an annual stipend of £5.
- 1487 Richard Trugurlond, Chaplain of Whittlesey, had a stipend of 8 marks: this being less than £10 he paid an annual subsidy to the Archbishop of 6s. 8d. Thomas, Chaplain of Eldernall, had same stipend and paid same subsidy. Michael Clerk, also Chaplain of Eldernall, had the same or a greater stipend, but paid no subsidy because he had to support his mother. Robert Cape, also Chaplain there, had the same or a greater stipend, but paid no subsidy because he was under an interdict.
- 1454 Will of John Wodfowl, Chaplain and Hermit of the chapel of S. Mary at Eldernall. For abstract of this will see Vol. II., p. 230.

- 1525 Licence to John (Robert ?), Bishop of Down and Connor, to consecrate the chapel at Eldernall, and to dedicate new chalices, &c. For this and the next entry see Vol. II., pp. 229-30.
- 1525 Licence to Robert (Blyth) Bishop of Down and Connor, and Abbot of Thorney, to the same effect, and also to dedicate sacred vessels, &c., at Thorney and Whittlesey, and to discharge certain episcopal duties, such as confirming and ordaining, within the deanery of Wisbech, "until and as long as, &c.," that is, until the Bishop of Ely withdrew the licence.

To the above extracts may be added a few taken from Gibbons' *Ely Episcopal Records*.

- 1378 Composition between Thorney abbey and the Vicar of Wytlessey S. Mary. (Reg. Arundell.)
- 1404 Change of Dedication Feast of S. Mary's church, Wittelsey, from the morrow of S. Bartholomew, at which time the Vicar and parishioners were much engaged in harvest work, being occupied *circa defalcacionem que illo die secundum consuetudinem observatam solet fieri*, &c., to 21 Sep. (Reg. Fordham.)
- 1515 Indulgence for relief of John Richer of Wyttelsey, whose goods had been destroyed by fire. (Reg. West.)
- 1515 5 Mar. Will of Sir William Boyse of Wyttelsey. He was to be buried in S. Mary's church "before the Image of Mary Magdalen." One of the witnesses is "Syr John Preston, curate of the same paryche."
- 1516 2 Sep. Will of John Cawthorn of Wyttylsay. To be buried in church of S. Andrew before Our Lady. One of the witnesses is "Syr Henry Haldowr, vicar."
- 1579 Licence of schoolmaster granted to Thomas Freman, of Witlesey.
- 1582 Licence of schoolmaster granted to Nicholas Beale, B.A., of Witlesey.

It will be noticed that while the variations in spelling the name of the place are numerous, in not a single instance is there any justification for the spelling, which is now occasionally adopted, Whittlesea. The last syllable, in the above extracts, is always -ey, or -eye; except once, when it is -ay. What the first syllables may mean is not clear. Somebody suggested that the name was equivalent to Willow Island, and gave *wittles*, or *wattles*, or *whittles*, as an ancient name for willows. And this etymology has been many times repeated. There is nothing inappropriate in the idea. If only some authority would be given for the use of those words in the

meaning assigned, it might be accepted. I find *wattles* in the sense of hurdles, and *whittle* in the sense of a small white basket, which might have been made of osiers; and *withy*, for an osier, is familiar enough. Can any correspondent confirm the above etymology by some quotation, or reference, in which *wittles* means willows? ED.

### 892.—Militia Assessments at Deeping S. James (876).—

(V)

Deeping S<sup>t</sup> James Novemb<sup>r</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1715.

A Duplicate, or List of all Estates in our Parish Real & Personal With y<sup>e</sup> Names of y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>r</sup>sent Owners and Tenants: With y<sup>e</sup> Valuation thereof as it is Assessed to y<sup>e</sup>. land tax Viz.

	li. per annum
Mad <sup>m</sup> Jane Wymardisold her Estate valued, as it is charged to Several tenants to y <sup>e</sup> . land tax &c. at .....	438 07 04
Mad <sup>m</sup> . Theodocia Neale Wido her Estate valued as it is charged to Several tenants to y <sup>e</sup> . land tax &c. at .....	168 00 04
Charles Bertey Esq <sup>r</sup> his Estate, and Fishings and Mannors valued as they are charged to y <sup>e</sup> . land tax .....	41 06 08
William Lord Fitzwilliams his Estate at .....	47 00 00
Late Doct <sup>r</sup> . Wigmores Estate in tenure of John Smith valued at .....	08 06 08
Late Mr. Brackenberys Estate in tenure of John Eldred Esq <sup>r</sup> . and late Hall .....	27 15 00
John Walkers Estate in tenure of Jo: Baily and Rob <sup>t</sup> . Back	22 00 00
Theophelus Bingham's Estate in tenure of Georg fuller.....	02 00 00
Late Tobe Nichollses Estate in tenure of Will <sup>m</sup> Hughell	02 00 00
Rich <sup>r</sup> Burttons Estate .....	01 10 00
Mr. James Writes Estate in tenure of Will <sup>m</sup> . Colls and Lawrenc' Twilley .....	04 04 00
Sam <sup>l</sup> . Johnsons Estate in tenure of Adam Thickbroome	07 00 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Hall and Others .....	07 00 00
George Bunings Estate in tenure of Rich <sup>r</sup> . Quanborough: &c.	3 00 00
Mr. Figg late Mr Sharpes Estate in tenure of John Money and Sam <sup>l</sup> . Maning .....	02 00 00
Edw <sup>d</sup> . Watsons Estate in tenure of his brother Will <sup>m</sup> ....	04 03 04
Mr. Figg late Mr Sharpes Estate in tenure of Edw <sup>d</sup> . Darley and Georg. Styles.....	03 00 00
Elizeb <sup>t</sup> . Turnill Wido her Estate in tenure of Will <sup>m</sup> . Slot	07 10 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Cornwell and ther at .....	07 10 00
Rich <sup>r</sup> . Smiths Estate in tenure of Edw <sup>d</sup> . Harrison .....	02 00 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Grayes Estate in tenure of Will <sup>m</sup> . Gayford .....	01 10 00
John Smiths daughters Estate in tenure of Lyon Falkner	02 05 04
Will <sup>m</sup> . Pollard Sen <sup>r</sup> s Estate in tenure of Hump <sup>r</sup> Pool...	01 00 00
Franc' Edmons Estate in tenure of John Allams Wido...	01 00 00
Joane Watson Wido her Estate in tenure of Tho <sup>m</sup> . Cartter	01 00 00
Gallants houses in tenure of John Chesterfield & Others...	01 10 00
Wido Dayes Estate in tenure of John Cartter .....	02 10 00
Mr. Marratts Estate in tenure of Tho <sup>m</sup> . Templeman .....	01 16 08
Pet <sup>r</sup> Mans Estate in tenure of Rich <sup>r</sup> . Mason iun <sup>r</sup> .....	01 13 00



John Boulton Estate by his wife and Mr. Baily.....	16 03 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Cartters Estate in tenure of Georg. Rodes .....	01 00 00
Wido Kerttons Estate in tenure of Rob <sup>t</sup> . Foe iun <sup>r</sup> .....	01 10 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Knowles his Estate .....	04 05 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Briggses Estate in tenure of Christop <sup>r</sup> . Miller.....	01 19 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Hookes Estate in tenure of Christop <sup>r</sup> . Miller .....	00 10 00
Mr. Rob <sup>t</sup> . Deepings Estate in tenure of Tho <sup>m</sup> . Davis ...	09 00 00
Rich <sup>r</sup> . Elingtons Estate in tenure of Will <sup>m</sup> . Slote .....	01 04 00
Mr. Will <sup>m</sup> . Slyes Estate in tenure of Lawrenc <sup>r</sup> Shareman.	
Will <sup>m</sup> . Garner. Nath <sup>n</sup> . Catlin and Other .....	18 01 10
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Roystons Estate ins owne hands and in tenure of	
John Turner. Franc <sup>r</sup> Beall. Ben: More and Other .....	05 10 00
Rich <sup>r</sup> . Warde his Estate.....	05 15 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Collitts Estate .....	02 00 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Ashton his Estate .....	08 08 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Halls Estate .....	08 00 00
John Royston his Estate .....	05 12 00
Edw <sup>r</sup> . Featherston for land he Renteth of Several.....	07 14 07
Georg Featherstons Estate.....	12 13 04
Mr. Borowdales Estate .....	02 03 04
Ralph Sandbey his Estate .....	02 00 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Goodale his Estate in his owne hands and in tenure	
of Edw <sup>r</sup> . Adkisson .....	04 05 10
John Tomlinson his Estate in his Owne hands and in	
tenure of Will <sup>m</sup> . Warren.....	05 04 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Wollice his Estate* .....	04 00 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Bensey .....	00 04 00
Franc <sup>r</sup> . Green.....	00 04 00
Hen <sup>r</sup> . Butler Sen <sup>r</sup> .....	00 17 04
[The above added up to £933 17s. 7d.]	
Mad <sup>m</sup> . Edmonson her Estate valued as it is Assessed to	
y <sup>e</sup> . land tax at .....	00 04 00
Mrs. Steward her Estate in tenure of Rich <sup>r</sup> . Arnald.....	14 08
Edw <sup>r</sup> . Chapill.....	00 06 08
Dean Featherston .....	01 05 06
Edw <sup>r</sup> . Harrisson.....	01 10 00
Jose. Johnson.....	01 00 00
Gregory Allin.....	00 08 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Bull .....	00 04 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Mouldsaw .....	01 04 00
John Harwood .....	01 06 08
John Johnsons .....	00 04 00
Matth: Garford .....	01 16 08
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Ireland .....	01 04 00
John Garford .....	00 12 00
John Rodes.....	00 04 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Emmeson.....	00 18 00
Wido Newton her .....	00 04 00
Wido Bowman her .....	01 07 06
Pere Hawkins.....	01 04 00
John Fen.....	07 12 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Pikerin.....	02 14 07
John Wright .....	00 08 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Ewen .....	00 08 00
Rich <sup>r</sup> . Harrisson .....	02 00 00
Alice Bore her .....	00 04 00
John Trigg .....	02 04 00

\* "His Estate," or "Estate," is repeated after each name, unless otherwise stated.

Mr. Eldred and Mr. Figg their Estate in tenure of Walter Bird	01 04 00
Rich <sup>r</sup> . Smith his Estate in tenure of Tho <sup>m</sup> . Hinkson.....	0 04 00
Mr. Walters his Estate in tenure of Georg Featherston and Others .....	02 00 00
Mr. Easts Estate in tenure of Joh <sup>n</sup> . Featherston .....	0 04 00
late Jo <sup>n</sup> . Lowes Estate in tenu <sup>r</sup> . of Rob <sup>t</sup> . Ireland .....	16 00
Paul Allam for Several people .....	03 04 00
Jo <sup>n</sup> . Carter late Tieghs Estate in tenu <sup>r</sup> . of Jo <sup>n</sup> . Rodes & others	6 00 00
W <sup>m</sup> . Ulletts Estate in tenure of Ed. Allam.....	00 04 00
Mrs. Edinses Estate in tenure of Ed. Brewer .....	1 18 06
Mr. Hurtises Estate in tenu <sup>r</sup> of Rob <sup>t</sup> . Wollic'.....	3 12 00
Charles Bertey Esq <sup>r</sup> his Estate in tenure of John Allam and John Butler .....	2 12 00
Mrs. Walburg her Estate in tenure of Tho <sup>m</sup> . Hall. Matth. Garford. Mr. Herin Mr. Oldham &c at .....	19 03 09
John Michael for Several people .....	01 03 04
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Pickerin for Several people .....	02 14 07
Noah Neale Esq <sup>r</sup> his Estate in tenure of Amberous Drue	00 12 00
Mr. Feast for toll at y <sup>e</sup> . lock valued at.....	4 01 08
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Hunts .....	01 00 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Buddles.....	00 12 00
Clem <sup>nt</sup> . Pollads .....	00 08 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Rippons.....	04 04 00
Mr. Figgs.....	03 05 00
Mr. Austins.....	00 16 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Curtises .....	00 16 00
Wido Heanes .....	00 07 06
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Boyalls .....	00 16 00
John Boyall Esq <sup>r</sup> .....	00 04 00
Mr. Benners .....	00 06 00
Mrs. Ann Smith wido her .....	02 00 08
Ben. Smith .....	01 13 04
Corn. Jebb .....	04 16 08
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Teigh .....	03 00 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Buck .....	04 06 08
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Measure .....	04 13 04
Edw <sup>r</sup> . Jackson .....	02 00 00
Mr. Linsey Hust his Estate in tenure of Antho <sup>n</sup> . Baker iun <sup>r</sup>	02 00 00
Ralph Uppex .....	03 12 00
[The second page is added up to £111 17s. 3d. in the assessment: but it really amounts to £121 19s. 3d.]	
Joshua Bailys Estate Valued at .....	04 12 00
John Plumptions Estate Valued at .....	01 00 00
Charles Royces .....	02 00 00
Nicho <sup>l</sup> . Measures .....	05 06 08
Franc' Garfords.....	10 10 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Pollards .....	02 08 00
Mr. Normans Estate in tenure of Dan. Eldred .....	02 00 00
Hen <sup>r</sup> . Moneys.....	03 00 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> Doncasters Estate valued at .....	00 15 00
Zachari: Turnill and Brother their Estate.....	06 14 00
Wido Grant her.....	04 15 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Brainsbeys Estate in his owne hands and in tenure of his Brother .....	03 00 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Catlin .....	01 10 00
Mr. Figg late Mr. Sharpes.....	39 10 00
Mr. Hopkins Estate in tenure of John Meagate.....	10 00 00
Sarah Hooke wido her.....	00 06 00

Mrs. Lidia Baily wido her Estate valued at.....	08 10 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Cornwell .....	02 00 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Johnsons .....	21 00 08
John Keisbys Estate and late Godred Hearsons.....	07 15 00
late John Hearsons .....	01 15 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Clarkes.....	01 10 00
John Hicklins.....	01 10 00
Rogar Smiths .....	00 12 00
John Eldred Esq <sup>r</sup> .....	07 10 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Morrises .....	02 00 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Slotes .....	00 16 08
Rich <sup>r</sup> . Arnald.....	02 00 00
Georg Bowman .....	10 02 06
Jonas Delahoy .....	02 10 00
John Allams .....	10 19 04
Wido Allams .....	00 15 00
John Ogles .....	02 06 08
Will <sup>m</sup> . Allam iun <sup>r</sup> .....	00 15 00
John Harrisas.....	02 06 00
James Smith .....	01 10 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Allam Sen <sup>r</sup> .....	01 10 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Marratt .....	01 10 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Bushbey for Barttons.....	02 00 00
Jonas Delahoy for Heans, Elington and Allams.....	6 02 06
John Ward .....	02 15 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Allam .....	01 06 08
Will <sup>m</sup> . Man.....	10 19 06
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Buck.....	30 10 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Smith .....	01 04 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Gayford .....	01 10 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Walls for his Aunts.....	01 13 04
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Walls .....	01 00 00
Wido Freland.....	01 ( <i>torn</i> )
John Quanborough .....	01( <i>torn</i> )00
John Buck .....	06 00 00
Hen <sup>r</sup> . Wright .....	( <i>torn</i> )10 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Foe Sen <sup>r</sup> .....	08( <i>torn</i> )06
Wido Freeman .....	01 04 00
John Lecock .....	02 13 04
John Pitts .....	01 10 00
John Johnson .....	06 19 00
Rich <sup>r</sup> . Mason Sen <sup>r</sup> .....	02 10 00
Wido Hunt her .....	01 10 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Foe iun <sup>r</sup> .....	03 19 00
John Coulson .....	02 10 00
Tho <sup>m</sup> . Exton .....	01 10 00
John Lambert .....	03 10 00
John Weldon Sen <sup>r</sup> and Martindale .....	04 03 06
John Weldon iun <sup>r</sup> .....	00 16 00
Dan. Snape.....	09 17 06
Lawrenc' Shareman .....	09 08 00
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Elington .....	03 08 00
[The third page is added up to £321 5s. 1d.]	
Gregory Holmes his Estate valued at.....	02 00 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Garner his Estate valued at.....	01 00 00
Will <sup>m</sup> . Stamford.....	03 09 06
Will <sup>m</sup> . Lambert .....	01 00 00
Nicho <sup>l</sup> . Featherston .....	00 16 00

Will <sup>m</sup> . Wrights Estate in tenure of John Allam and Will <sup>m</sup> . Brainsbey .....	01 07 04
Catlins wenshes Estate in tenure of John Harris .....	00 12 00
[These last six entries come to £10 4s. 10d.: and the total, in the original, is £1377 5s. 1d.]	

by us  
Tho. Johnson  
Tho<sup>m</sup>. Buck  
Will. Man  
Thomas Measure

[Endorsed] A duplicate of y<sup>o</sup>. Militia y<sup>t</sup>. was Carried to  
[word spelt wrongly, erased] Sleeford. In Novemb<sup>r</sup>. 1715.

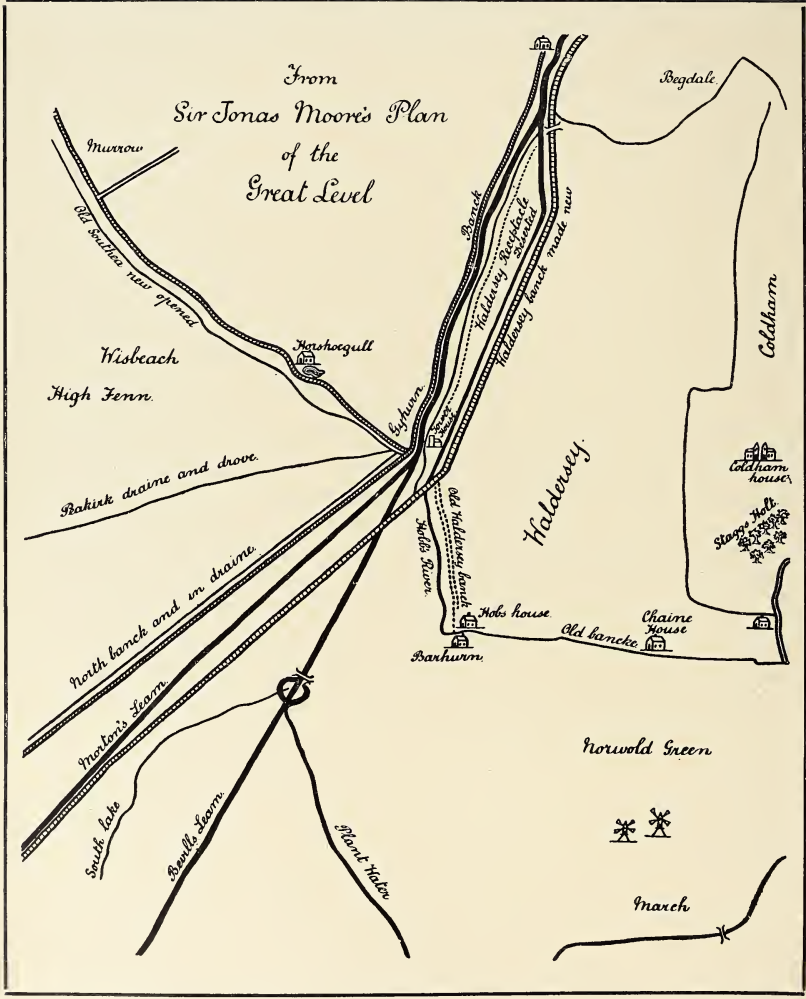
**893.—Aldreth Bridge (875).**—Mr. H. G. Few has obligingly lent, through Mr. Robert Bowes, a copy of a Case for Counsel's Opinion with regard to the liability of any person or persons to erect a bridge upon the site of Aldreth High Bridge, which seems to have been in use as lately as 1870, but is now destroyed.

As stated by L.G. in the article referred to above, the liability to repair was attached to the manor of Haddenham. As long ago as about 1614 the bridge fell down and for many years was not rebuilt, the owner of the manor having established a ferry and exacted ferriage. As the bridge is mentioned in Dugdale's *History of Imbanking*, 1662, it was clearly re-erected before that date.

After considering all the evidence submitted, Counsel advised that the bridge was a public bridge; that the repair, and consequently, in the case of its destruction, the re-erection of the bridge was a charge upon the manor of Haddenham; that any evidence of toll having been taken would raise a strong presumption that the person taking toll was liable for the repairs; and that the occupiers, not the owners, of the lands formerly belonging to the manor were the persons who could be compelled to rebuild the bridge.

Mr. H. G. Few has been for some time urging the Cambridge-shire C.C., of which he is a member, to rebuild the bridge jointly with the Isle of Ely C.C.; and this has at last been agreed upon. At the place in question the Ouse is the boundary between the Administrative County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely.





From  
 Sir Jonas Moore's Plan  
 of the  
 Great Level

Murrour  
 Old Sautice new opened  
 Wisbeach High Fenn  
 Hobs house  
 Lychuan  
 Halderswy  
 Banck  
 Halderswy Banck  
 Halderswy banck made new  
 Hobs house  
 Chaine House  
 Old bancke  
 Barhurn  
 Hobbs River  
 Old Halderswy banck  
 Bogdale  
 Coldham  
 Coldham house  
 Slooge Hall  
 North banck and on drains  
 Merton's Loom  
 South lake  
 South Loom  
 Plant Water  
 Norwold Green  
 March

**894.—The Drainage of the Great Level (No. 2).—**

The earliest Commissions of Sewers were issued upon some urgent necessity, when some bank had broken and the country was threatened with inundation. Thus in A.D. 1275, a commission was issued on complaint of the Prior of Spalding that the lands of the King and of the Prior were in danger of inundation. The Commissioners were to inquire who were liable to repair the barrier banks of the fen, and to distrain the landholders in the wapentake of Elloe to perform their contingent. Commissions were ordinarily issued pursuant to complaints lodged in Parliament or to petitions addressed to the Court of Chancery. The “poor men of Wygenhale” and the towns in Marshland suffered much from the waters coming down the Ouse, and by Wellestream, as the Old Nene flowing by Upwell was called,\* and the Bishop of Ely’s men of Welle, Elme, Wisbech, Leverington, Newton, and Tyd were drowned by the waters of Welle caused by the neglect of those whose duty it was to repair the banks of the river according to the custom of the fen.†

The duty of the Commissioners was fourfold: to inquire, to survey, to reform, and to compel by distress, and in default of distress by amerciament. The Commissioners were the Conservators of the Fens. In 1427, by the Act of 6 Henry VI., c. 5, a statutory form of the commission was prescribed authorising Commissioners “to make and ordain necessary and convenable laws and ordinances for the protection of the sea banks and of the marshes and fens in the parts adjoining according to the laws and customs of Romney Marsh,‡ and to

\* Pat. 2 Ric. II. A.D. 1379. Commission de Walliis et Fossatis. In 1338 a petition of the towns of Marshland shows that their land had been inundated, their corn sown and their goods had perished. For this reason the goods in the towns were taxed at the fifteenth: Tilney at £10; Walpole at £16 8s.; Wygenhal at £13 4s. Cl. R., 12 E. III., Pt. 1.

† Pat. 13 Edw. I., m. 24 d., A.D. 1285. Early Acts, which relate incidentally to flooding, purport to deal with the suppression of weirs, gorges, mills, stanks, and kiddles erected in rivers to the hindrance of the passage of boats. The navigation was important. Art. 23 of Magna Charta provided for the removal of all such obstructions.

‡ The ancient and approved customs of Romney Marsh, established 35 Henry III., for the repair of sea-banks at the charge of the landholders within the marsh, according to the quantity of land held by them. The tax was fixed by 24 barons chosen by the commonalty, and they appointed a Marsh-bailiff to assess and levy the tax.

hear and determine according to the law and custom of our realm of England.”\*

All banks, barriers, drains, sewers, bridges,† causeways, and gotes‡ were within the survey of the Commissioners, and it was their duty to suppress all hurtful mills, fish-garths, mill-dams, locks, hebbing wears, and flood-gates. They were to inquire

by the oath of honest and law-worthy men of the shire through whose default hurts and damages have happened and who hath or holdeth any lands, common of pasture, profit of fishing or hath any loss by means of the said dangers and letts and all those persons and every of them to tax, assess, charge, distrain and punish after the quantity of their lands and by the number of acres, after the rate of every person's portion or profit.

The foundation of the authority of the Commissioners to tax was based on the presentment of a jury. A precept would be void unless based on a presentment showing the existence of some public detriment. The tax was assessed on every owner or landholder;§ not in gross on a town, but equally on lands within the area drowned or the drainage district, and which derived benefit from the drainage works, according to their value and not differentially in proportion to the amount of benefit which they respectively derived.|| Provided the Commissioners observed the custom and law of England, “doing therein as to Justices pertaineth,” their acts were not examinable by any court of law.

The form of Commission prescribed in 1427 remained in use till 1531, when a General Act concerning Commissions of Sewers, 23 Henry VIII., c. 5, prescribed the form of the oath

\* The commissions set out the bounds of the area within which the authority of the Commissioners is to be exercised, *e.g.*, A.D. 1470, 9 E. IV. Comm. de walliis et fossatis to W. Bishop of Ely, &c., in the parts of Marshland, Upwell, and Outwell, and other towns and marshes between the river flowing from Erith-bridge by Ely, Salterslode and Wygenhall to Bishops Leam, and the river flowing from Erith-bridge to Benwyke, and from thence to Paddockstowe and so to Fasset-bridge, and from thence to Standground and so to Muscote, and from thence to Thorney Mill and Godelakescrosse, and by Nomanslond, and from thence to Dowedale and so to Clowes-crosse, and from thence by the old sewer to Tydherne and so to the sea.

† Bridges over streams; not land-bridges such as Lolham-bridges.

‡ A channel for passage of water.

§ By the Sewers Acts of Hy. VIII., Edw. VI., and James I., the King's lands are expressly made subject to “all scots, lots and sums of money rated and taxed by virtue of such commission.”

|| Emerson v. Saltmarsh, 1837, 7 A. and E. 266, recently illustrated in Knight and Lamport, 1898. 1 Q. B., 588.



to be made by the Commissioners,\* empowered them to sell the freehold land of those who failed to pay the tax, and to enforce their decrees

by fines amerciaments peynes and other like meanes after their good discrecions, causing the same firmly to be observed doing therein as to our justices apperteyneth after the lawes and statutes of our realme and according to your wisdomes and discrecions.

Persons of "quality" were nominated to the office of Commissioner. When difficulties arose, gentlemen of "known experience in their faculties, able to make view and plat for the fens and to observe the true dyssentes of waters and qualities of the soil" were associated with the Commission.† A "view" to be effectual would have to be made in the winter when the oozy turf of the fens was heavy riding. A view of that sable tract from the tower of Yaxley Church was pleasant enough, but to trample among the tangled watercourses of the Nene, on ozier beds and sippy hassocks, was not the work for men of quality. From the beginning a system of embankment, which requires constant supervision, was introduced. That caused the raising of the river beds; and the expense of maintaining the barrier, as well as the difficulty of draining the low surrounding country, was ever increasing. It was hardly the fault of the Commissioners that their labours were fruitless. Their decrees were disregarded, and they complained that they were overruled by foreigners, hence the "New Commission," issued in 1581, refers to "much dyfference in opinions and also the want of sufficient authoritie which have occasioned the Commissioners of Sewers in chardgeable sorte

\* The Qualification of a Commissioner was land in fee of annual value of 40 marks, or if a freeman of a city or borough, movables of value of £100, or a barrister of one of the four Inns of Court, sec. 10. The duration of the Laws of Sewers continued only so long as the commission was in force, but by 13 Eliz., c. 6, they were to remain in force notwithstanding a supersedeas. By 7 Anne, c. 33, copyholds of defaulters could be sold and the tax levied by distress and sale of their goods. Deans, Mayors, and Recorders were ex-officio included in the Commissions. A woman might act as a Commissioner. The Act of Henry VI. was repealed in 1863, but that of Henry VIII., and several amending Acts, are still in force. The powers of the Commissioners are regulated by the Land Drainage Act, 1861. The Act of Henry VIII., called the Bill of Sewers, forms the text of Callis' reading on Sewers. Robert Callis, 1574—1641, reader of Gray's Inn, was a native of the Lincolnshire fens.

† In 1580, Ralph Agasse, of Suffolk, and John Hexham, of Huntingdon, were joined in the Commission. There is a plan of the fens made by Hexham, in 1606, for the Undertakers. The "Agas" maps of Oxford and Cambridge were made in 1592. Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, sat with the Commissioners at their Sessions at Spalding.

to endeavor divers workes of sewers whereupon small effectes have proceded";\* and the long suffering drowned land holders had lost all patience. "Hereupon it was that the Upland men having long time expected an amendment of the outfall at Wisbech and finding little hope of a remedie that way did agree upon a drayne in the 38<sup>th</sup> yeare of Queen Elizabeth by way of supplies to Wisbech river called Clowse Crosse or Shiere Drane, which divideth the Isle of Elie from Hollande and by Shieregoate falleth into that river some five miles below that towne."†

The practice of the Commissioners was to hold inquisitions, from time to time, touching the drainage works affecting a group of townships which was considered to have a distinct system.

The transcript of an inquisition taken A.D. 1438 will explain the proceedings of the Commissioners.

Inquisition held at Wisbech in the county of Cambridge on Saturday next before the feast of St. James the Apostle in the 16<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of King Henry the sixth after the conquest before John Colvyle Knight‡ Gilbert Haultofte§ and his brother justices by virtue of a commission to them directed by the same King to supervise all banks dikes drains sewers bridges causeys and gootes by the sea coast and in the fen within the limits of the counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Huntingdon and Cambridge, and all streams of fresh water within the same limits and to hear and determine all the defects thereof. The Jury say that the sea bank beginning at Tydgote in Tyd St. Giles next to the county of Lincoln as far as Bevys Cross in Wisbech ought to be kept 15 feet high and six feet wide at the top, and that every tenant of lands or tenements in the town of Wisbech and in the towns of Leverington Tydde St. Giles and Newton according to the proportion of their holding have been accustomed time out of mind to repair, sustain and make the said bank by reason of the said custom and by force of a judgment of the justices of the progenitors of the King who were assigned to hear and determine the matter, each tenant is bound according to the quantity of his holding.

Whereupon it appeared to the said justices, as well by the verdict of the jury as by their own view, all being present and consenting, according the laws of Romneymarsh in such cases made and provided, to decree and ordain, for the protection of all the said towns, that every tenant of lands and tenements in the said towns should repair sustain and make anew the said bank as often as it shall be necessary.

\* Acts of P. C., 1581. † Sir Clement Edmondes' Report, 1618.

‡ 9 Edw. IV. Sir John Colville held the manors of Elme, Newton, and Walsoken. Several Knights of this name are interred at Newton, by Wisbech.

§ G. Haultofte, a baron of the Court of Exchequer. There is a memorial of his wife Margaret in Outwell Church. This inquisition is with a bundle of membranes relating to sewers throughout England. They are mutilated and in part illegible. Miscellaneous Rolls, Chancery 1.2  
1.

Item they present that the tenants of the lands or tenements in the old market of Wisbech were accustomed from time out of mind to repair sustain and make anew the sea bank from Beviscrosse as far as the great bridge of Wisbech on the west side of Wisbech every one in proportion to his lands or tenements And that the said bank should be kept ten feet high and twelve feet wide at the top.

Whereupon it appeared to the justices &c. that every tenant in the old market should repair sustain and make anew the said banks as often as it shall be necessary. And that none of them shall throw dung nor anything else on that bank, nor make holes in it, nor dung-pits namely from Geyherne as far as the sea shore, whereby the water shall be impounded or blocked. And this under a penalty of xx<sup>s</sup> to be forfeit to the Bishop by those through whose default such defects shall happen.

Item they say that the tenants of le Townehende of Wisbech on the north side were accustomed time out of mind to repair sustain and make anew a bank called Gebryncke from the great bridge in Wisbech as far as Soreldyke And they further say that the tenants in le ffenhende of Wisbech were accustomed to repair &c. a bank called Newdyke namely from Soreldyke as far as Geyhirn and another bank called ffen dyke which extends from Geyhirn as far as Piggessdrove Crosse. And they further say that the tenants in le ffenhende are not of ability to repair Newdyke from Soreldyke to Geyhirn and ffen dyke from Geyhirn to Piggessdrove Crosse.

Whereupon the justices decreed ordained that hereafter the tenants both in Townehende and ffenhende shall repair the marsh bank called Gebryncke on the north side from the great bridge of Wisbech as far as Soreldyke and Newdyke from Soreldyke to Gehirn and ffen dyke from Gehirn as far as Piggessdrove Crosse every one in proportion to his holding as often as shall be necessary.

Item they present that the tenants in Leverington were accustomed time out of mind to maintain a marsh bank in Leverington from Piggessdrove crosse as far as le Clouse which is the division between Leverington and Sutton everyone in proportion to his holding according to ancient assessment.

Item they present that the Prior of Ely and Thomas Tuddenham Knight\* are bound to maintain a crest in Tholymersedrove in Wysbech beginning at ffen dyke and extending as far as Tolymers in the same town, four feet high and eight feet wide.

Item the justices decree and ordain that all wears stanks and other engines now on Wisbech Bank whereby the water is obstructed shall be removed and they forbid all persons hereafter to make wears dams or pools on the bank from Gehirn to the sea under a penalty of C shillings to be forfeit to the bishop of Ely. And further that a keeper shall be appointed for the protection of the country and to superintend and annually open and shut the iij Gotes of Wysbech, Leveryngton, Newton and Tyd St Giles at the charge of the tenants therein.

Item they present that the dike called Elm fendike which begins at Kekysmill and extends as far as Benstedhirn and thence as far as Tilneyhirn and thence to Mareysdam in Elm ought to be raised and repaired according to old assessment 3 feet higher than it now is and six feet wide at the top. And they present that the dike called Redmoredike in Elm begins at Coldham Clowse and extends as far as Fridaybridge† in the same town ought to be repaired and sustained well and sufficiently by all tenants of lands and tenements in Redmorefeld and Walyschefeld and that the said dike ought to be raised four feet and made 8 feet wide at the top.

\* The Tudenhams owned Tudenham Hall near Tholomas Drove. Sir Thomas was beheaded in 1460, on the accession of Edw. IV.

† Friday Bridge is in Elm. Saturday Bridge is on Ravens Bank in South Holland.

And they present that the dike which begins at Fridaybridge on the west side of the bank as far as Mareysdam ought to be raised 3 feet and made 8 feet wide at the top. And they present that the dike called Gebrynke in Elm on the east side of the bank of Elm which begins at the drove of St. Giles and extends as far as Fridaybridge and thence to Mareysdam ought to be raised 3 feet and made 12 feet wide at the top by the tenants of lands and tenements in Oldefelde and Nedham according to the assessment made in that behalf.

Item they present that the dike called Nedhamdike in Elm which begins at Thornedike in Welle and leads as far as Coldham (kyrfe) in Elme ought to be raised higher than it now is and repaired in all low places and made . . . . and equal in height and width to the dike . . . .

Item they present that all men who have land abutting on a sewer in Elme which extends by the top of the land in Nedham from Fridaybridge as far as Buytysdike in the same town and thence to the Chapel of St. Christopher in Outwell and thence as far as the sluice at the stone cross in Outwell, ought and are used to repair and scour the said sewer next to the top of their land, so that the river of Nedham may flow to Wellesholl And that all men who have land between Fridaybridge in Elm and Grenedike in Welle and between Bishopsdike and Nedham in Elm ought to make and repair a sluice in the best manner they can so that it may be sound and sufficient to hold up Outwell river in winter time.

Whereupon it seemed good to the said justices as well by the verdict of the jury as by a view by them made pursuant to the statutes of Romney-marsh in such case provided to order for the security of the town of Elm that the bishop of Ely and his successors and William Venour and all tenants of land and tenements in Elm in future should make repair, raise and sustain all and singular the said dikes each man according to the quantity of his tenure as often as should be necessary.

Item the Justices decree and ordain, that whereas the water of Oldfield in Elm on the east side of Elm bank used to flow and discharge on Wisbech bank at Bevyse but because Wisbech bank for many years past has been continually raised and blocked with heaps of sea sand by means of the flow and ebb of the sea so that the said water of Oldfield by no possibility can fall or discharge, and it is ordained for the security of the said town that the water of Oldfield hereafter shall discharge and issue by the pipe called Massingespye being under Elm bank between the mesuage of John Blythe and of Nicholas Retelesden and thence by the old sewer between the lands of John Tosty and John Westbroke as far as Towndrove and thence between the drove and the head of the lands of John Westbroke, John Edryche and Bedyacre as far as the land of Will. Gryswell and thence between the drove and the land of John Conysbury and Will. Gryswell to Coldham sewer at Crumdykebrigge and thence in the said sewer to the pipe under Wysbech bank called Coldham pipe and thence in Coldham sewer to the gote in Leverington called Oregard and thence to the sea And that the water of Redmorefeld and Walyschfeld hereafter are not to flow in Coldham sewer but the said water of Redmorefeld and Walyschfeld ought to flow through Redmore pipe next to the end of Elm and thence between the dike called Hillary dyke on one side and the land of John Walpoll as far as the land of Will. Beston, and thence between Hillary-dike and the land of Will. Beston to the land of John Walpoll and thence across the dike called Hillary dyke to the sewer called Waltersee Sewer and thence in Waltersee sewer to the gote in Leverington called Oregard and thence to the sea. And that all those who have land in the said field of Oldfield and all those who by the discharge of the water of the said field have advantage hereafter shall well and sufficiently make and repair the pipe called Massyngespipe and the sewer thence leading to Coldham sewer at Cromdykebrigge according to the proportion of their holdings.

The decree of the Commissioners refers to the heaps of sea sand which blocked the outfall by Wisbech for the waters of Well Moor, and a like obstruction on the Great River afterwards drowned the land of the men of Tyd and Newton, Leverington and Wisbech. They petitioned the Bishop of Ely to undertake the works necessary to rid them of the water. All those manors were of the fee of the bishops of Ely. Bishop Morton\* had no private ends to gain by undertaking a drainage scheme. The "Leam" was not made for "his private commodity which he covetously sought"; nor is there any likelihood that his undertaking was a source of profit to any one: but very likely "the Nene which was before navigable and of much public use hath since served for little or none."

It was clear enough to Bishop Morton that an extensive system of drainage was indispensable. He was the head of the Commissioners and Lord of the Isle; so the sluggish streams of the Nene were under his management: but what amount of taking thought could render the old system of embanking effectual, with tortuous branches of a river crossing meres and spreading into shallow lakes, at one time a string of scattered pools, then suddenly becoming riotous torrents which left a swamp where but yesterday all was dusty dry? The chief branch of the Nene, the old river, flowed by Stanground and Horsey Bridge to Whittlesey Mere, and so through Ug Mere and Ramsey Mere to Benwick. There it united with West-Water, a branch of the Ouse which flowed from Earith. It flowed by Great Cross where, dividing, one stream, Plantwater, flowed to Guyhirn and so to Wisbech and on to March and so to the Ouse. The second branch of the Nene, called Muscote

\* Buck's Reign of Ric. III., see *Fenland Notes and Queries*, vol. IV., 708. John Morton, 1420—1500. In 1450 sub-dean of Lincoln; 1472, Master of the Rolls; 1478, Bishop of Ely. His fidelity to Edward V. made him obnoxious to Richard. In 1483, at the Council held in the Tower of London, the Duke, joking him about the fine strawberries at Ely Palace, desired him to fetch some. The Bishop was arrested in the adjoining chamber. In 1st year of Richard's reign he was, in his absence, accused and attainted of sorcery. In 1485, returning from Flanders, he was created Archbishop of Canterbury. Henry VII. depended much upon his counsels, and he tempered that monarch's grasping policy. Sir Thos. More, who had been in the Archbishop's service, speaks of his vast capacity and prodigious memory, which he retained, and so dying "still strong and full of powers." He was the principal means of uniting the Houses of York and Lancaster.

and Catswater, flowed round Borough Little Fen and so by Thorney Bar to Singlesole to unite with the Welland at Crowland Triangle Bridge,\* and to form Old South Eau which flowed to the Shire Drain and to Guyhirn.

Bishop Morton introduced draining by new rivers cut straight without embankments, and to adherence to that plan has been attributed the failure of many projects to drain the fenland; but where the water had the same fall in a course of 12 miles as it had in twice that distance through the Meres the current must have become more rapid. The New Leam, commenced in 1478, 12 miles long, 40 feet broad, and 4 feet deep, was a surprising undertaking. Beginning at Stanground, where a dam was made to stop the river from flowing down the old channel, the New Leam stretched across Flag Fen, Whittlesey Field, and Bassimoor, not in a straight line, meeting Plantwater and Old South Eau at Guyhirn, where a remarkable flushing reservoir, called the Mouth, was formed to hold up the fresh water till the tide was ebbing, then by discharge of the water to assist in scouring out the bed of the river. Just what was wanted.† The shallowness of the Leam led to the practice of making “gravels”‡ across it to enable farmers to cart the fodder out of the fens, and that practice, together with the shrinkage of the spongy turf, retarded the purpose which it was intended to accomplish; but the scheme was admirable, and had the Leam been deeper the whole volume of upland water could have been constantly flowing to a free outfall. At Guyhirn the Bishop built Tower house “to the end that he might see his workmen afar off in

\* The stream bordering Borough Little Fen was called Muscote and the rest Catswater, as if it were a catchwater drain. The flow of Old South Eau varied with the state of the Welland. Guyhirn seems to have always been a point of confluence of the fen rivers.

† See illustration taken from Sir J. Moore's Map, drawn about 1655. Sir Jonas Moore, 1617–1679. He published his work on Arithmetic in 1650 (with portrait). Then appointed surveyor on the work of draining the Great Level. The map was published in 1685, but it was made before 1660, when the Company were in control. His map of Cambridgeshire was published in Philips' supplement to Speed's Maps, 1676. He was sent to Tangier in 1663, and on his return was knighted and appointed Surveyor General of the Ordnance. Sir Jonas' account of the “many attempts for the Draining of the Gt. Level at vast charges and how all became fruitless” was printed in 1685.

‡ Northey Gravel is an instance.

the Level and give directions to them";\* so old authorities relate. The brick tower was there, and is often referred to in Inquisitions and Drainage Acts. It was there in 1810, when the Barrier Banks Act was passed.†

895.—“The Romance of a Hundred Years.”—Mr. Alfred Kingston has recently written a book with this title (published by Mr. Stock) which was reviewed in *The Athenæum* for 16 March last. From this review we extract a portion of much interest to inhabitants of the Fenland. An article on the Littleport Riots appeared in *Fenland Notes and Queries* (Vol. III., p. 287, Art. 636); and our correspondent, Mr. C. Johnson, published a good account of them in a pamphlet noticed in our number for July, 1893.

Most noticeable is the chapter called “The Peasants’ Rising after Waterloo.” The discontent aroused chiefly by low wages and the high price of provisions first showed itself in an attack on the Norwich flour-mills, but its most picturesque manifestations were in the Fen Country. At Downham, in Norfolk, on May 20th, 1816, a crowd of country people, numbering, it is said, some fifteen hundred, not only looted the shops of the bakers, millers, and butchers, but even “went to the Crown Inn and drove the magistrates (who were holding their weekly sitting) from the rooms into the street, who with great difficulty succeeded in escaping.” The Upwell troop of cavalry, however, arrived upon the scene and used the flats of their swords; and by next morning everything seemed at an end, after a meeting had taken place between the inhabitants and the rioters, resulting in an agreement for an advance of wages and the release of the men already captured. But the news of these doings having speedily reached Littleport, in the Isle of Ely, the local leaders rallied their forces at the public-house, whence they sallied forth in marching order, their standard-bearer, one Walker, carrying a long pole “with some printed stuff at the end of it, like a flag.” Behind him were a mob “some 100 to 150 in number, some armed with pitchforks and crowbars, one with a butcher’s cleaver.” They refused the offers of the local farmers to raise wages and sell flour at 2s. 6d. a stone, or less, and exacted money from several houses, besides carrying away valuables of all sorts. Finally, having induced John Dennis, a publican and small farmer, to become their leader, they got together gunpowder and shot, with several old swivel-pieces and punt-guns, and mounted the latter, “deeply loaded,” upon a waggon drawn by two horses. Inside the waggon, behind the rustic artillery, were placed the women: in this guise the procession moved on towards Ely, whither

\* Sir Clement Edmond’s Report, 1618.

† 50 Geo. III., c. 77, an Act for improving the Barrier Bank on the south side of Morton’s Leam between Tower House and Whittlesey Field. There was a chapel at Guyhirn, licensed by the Bishop of Ely, A.D. 1398. The hamlet is within the parish of Wisbech S. Peter’s. In 1871, Guyhirn, with Ringsend and Thorney Toll, were formed into an ecclesiastical parish. There is an iron girder bridge over the Nene. New means of transit have superseded the ferry which plied across the stream. A gibbet stood at Ringsend. Two men were gibbeted here for the murder of Will. Marriot in 1795.—*Fenland Notes and Queries*, Vol. I., Arts. 158, 182.

the fugitive parson of Littleport had carried the news of their approach. At sunrise a party of magistrates and clergy met the insurgents three-quarters of a mile outside the city. Demanding the reason of their disorderly conduct, they received the men's reply "that they came for redress from the magistrates. Wages at 2s. a day, flour at 2s. 6d. a stone" (and "beer at 2d. a pint," added a thirsty one in the crowd). They were told that their complaints should be examined by the overseers, for which purpose the magistrates entered into a sort of treaty with them and urged them to conduct themselves peaceably. They said they had not come "to hurt anybody," but when told they had much better go back home, they, "having little faith in the old arrangement, and staking all upon the issue, made answer that they 'might as well be hanged as starved'; and one Rutter, seeing the clergymen, magistrates, and men of the law by their side, said 'they might if they pleased hang him up on the next thorn bush.'" So they went on into Ely, where for some time they "exercised complete dominion," levying contributions of money, which was placed in the hands of the three leaders for systematic distribution among the three contingents from Littleport, Downham, and Ely. The Ely men deserted, and the others fled homewards before soldiers and volunteers reached the cathedral city; but at Littleport, ere the arrest of seventy-three raiders put a period to the rising, a struggle took place in which one of the rioters was killed and another wounded, while one of the 18th Dragoons, who had been at Waterloo and had passed unscathed through many other engagements, lost an arm. Five men suffered death and nineteen others slighter sentences as the result of what its narrator describes as "one of the saddest little tragedies in fustian which the sorrows of Arcady have ever compassed." We are not so sure as the author about Arcady's having "its heart in the right place" when it could extort notes from a defenceless village shopkeeper by flourishing a butcher's cleaver over her head, though it is doubtless gratifying to hear of the raiders sparing a farmer when his son was dying, and leaving his house untouched "with some expression of sympathy for the sorrowing father."

**896.—Paley of Peterborough.**—William Paley, Archdeacon of Carlisle, the author of "Evidences of Christianity," was born at Peterborough in 1743. His father had been vicar of Helpston, but was of a family which had resided at Giggleswick, Yorkshire,\* for generations. That may be so, but the name occurs during the 16th century in public business in the Fen district. Thus, in 1575, there is a suit in the Court of Requests in which William Paley, of Stilton, is petitioner, and — Layfeld, defendant. The petitioner alleged that he possessed a term of years in the rectory of Stilton, which he had mortgaged to Edward Stanhope, of Gray's Inn, for six score pounds, and being unable to pay by reason that he had trusted divers others with corn and other goods in

\* In Whitaker's *History of Craven*, 1878, 3rd Edition by Morant, p. 173. The first known Paley is William, born about 1560, and no further information.



which he traded, and had made divers bargains greatly to his hindrance, and being in some danger of extremity of bonds, was brought to such extreme poverty that he could not prosecute his suit at common law, therefore prayed to be allowed to proceed in the Queen's Court of Requests.\*

The Yorkshire County histories do not verify the reference to the many generations of Paley, and as William the first of the name referred to is supposed to have been born about 1560, he may be the kinsman of the Stilton merchant.

L. G.

William Paley, father of the Archdeacon, was Vicar of Helpston from 1735 till 1799. He resigned the vicarage a few months before his death. He had been Minor Canon of Peterborough Cathedral; and was for many years Head Master of Giggleswick School. There seem to have been Paleys resident near Settle, in Yorkshire, in very early times; and Adam de Paley, and John de Paley, were householders in Giggleswick in 1379, as appears in the West Riding Poll Tax for that year.

Ed.

**897.—Manor of Peterborough, 1756.**—I was attracted by an item in a second-hand bookseller's catalogue, offering for sale the court roll of the manor of Peterborough for 1756, and I sent for it. But it turns out to be of less interest than I expected, and refers only to one set of transactions. This is the opening of it:—

The Manor of Peterborough	} To wit	At a Court Leet and View of Free Pledge with the Great Court of the Rev <sup>d</sup> . the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Peterborough in the County of Northton Lords of the said Manor & holden in & for the
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Manor afores<sup>d</sup>. on Tuesday the Twenty fifth day of May in the 29<sup>th</sup> Year of the Reigne of Our Sovereigne Lord George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth And in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and Fifty Six and from thence by Several Adjournm<sup>ts</sup>. to the first day of November then next following before Richard Tryce Esq<sup>r</sup>. It is thus Inrolled . . . . .

John Rowell, Gent., son and heir apparent of John Rowell, Gent., and Mary his wife, formerly Wright, was admitted to

\* 17 Eliz., B. 5, 340; B. 8, 237.

an estate reversionary after the death of his said father and mother, in virtue of a surrender made, 12 Nov., 1734, by John Rowell, Esq., deceased, uncle of John Rowell, the father. The property consisted of a cottage with lands in Boongate, in tenure of Charles Jones, undertenant, held of the manor at a rent of 11s. 7d.: and a maltkin and offices in Priestgate Lane with gardens, outhouses, &c., now or late in tenure of Mr. Wright Squire, held of the manor at the rent of 5s.

The Homage presented that Thomas Hurst, Gent., was the surviving trustee named in the above surrender, and that James Hurst is his eldest son and heir at law, to whom the said customary premises by common law and the custom of the manor descend; and the said James, by his attorney William Smith, notary public, craved admission to the premises in trust: and the lords, by their steward, granted seizin by the rod, and he paid his fine, "but his Fealty is respited by reason of his absence."

At the adjourned court in November, John Rowell, Sen<sup>r</sup>., Mary his wife, John Rowell, Jun<sup>r</sup>., Matthew Wyldbore, Esq., nephew and heir at law of Robert Wyldbore, late of Peterborough, Gent., deceased, James Hurst, Gent., eldest son of Thomas Hurst, late of Stamford, Gent., deceased, and Armstead Parker, Esq., "they or some or one of them being Customary Tenants of the said Manor and she the said Mary being first Solely & secretly examined by Thomas Hill Gent Deputy Steward," and freely consenting, surrendered all the premises above described out of court by the rod. The lands attached to the cottage are here said to be in Boongate and Padholm, and among the buildings attached to the maltkin is mentioned a granary. The surrender was to the use of William Addison, of Peterborough, so that he might be tenant for a common recovery. Admission was accordingly given, but no fine was paid, "because his admission is for further assurance only." Immediately afterwards the three principals, Matthew Wyldbore, James Hurst, Armstead Parker, their

attorney, William Addison, and "the said Joseph Gates," who however had not been named before, surrendered all the estate to the hands of William Smith aforesaid. He, in turn, surrenders the cottage, &c., in Boongate, to John Hardley, of Whittlesey, in the Isle of Ely, grocer; and the maltkin, &c., in Priestgate, to John Rowell the younger.

The fine was 2s. 6d. Three stamps each of the value of 2s. 3d., are affixed to the first three transactions.

ED.

**898.—Tombstone Verses at Boston.**—In *The Boston Independent* for 2 March, 1901, was published a large number of verses from the tombstones in the old burial ground of S. John's parish. Many of these are very quaint; and while some are tolerably familiar from the frequency of their occurrence in various other districts, some seem to be unusual and possibly peculiar to the neighbourhood. The burial ground is no longer used; and most of the inscriptions are fast becoming illegible.

We select a few. It is not suggested that the style is desirable for reproduction on epitaphs of the present day; or that the versification ought to commend itself to good taste. Some of the following, it will be observed, are sentiments merely, with no attempt at rhyme.

The first is given as a good example of pathetic tenderness. It is upon the tomb of Euphemea, wife of Charles Whitworth, who died in 1829, aged 24, and of their infant sons, Socrates and Charles Lee Whitworth.

If modest worth and beauty claim a tear,  
 Oh! stop awhile and pay that tribute here!  
 For know here lies beneath this humble tomb  
 A virtuous flower, wither'd in its bloom:  
 Cut off from all the social joys of life,  
 Crop'd like a rose before it's fully blown  
 Or half its genuine perfection's known.  
 Of manner gentle, and superior mind,  
 Death made his conquest and in triumph smiled.

On the tomb of Jemima, wife of George Hartley, 1842, and of a young son, we read:—

When this our short  
And fleeting life is o'er,  
We die to live, and live  
To die no more.

Joseph Smith, "merchant of the place," says of his wife:—

What she was as a wife,  
A mother, and a friend,  
Is only known to those  
Who lament their irreparable loss.

From the memorials of seafaring men, or their families, are some worthy of notice. Christopher Burton, mariner, aged 24, and James Smith, his mate, aged 28, "were wrecked in the Sand Hole," 14 March, 1845.

Deplorable misfortune! To be shipwrecked in the very Haven, and to perish even in sight of Happiness. What a memorable proof is here of The Frailty of man in his best estate. Look, O Look on this monument, ye gay and careless: Attend to this date, and boast no more of to-morrow.

Joseph Knight, 1811, aged 20:—

By storms of fierce temptation, fear and pain,  
The shatter'd bark's toss'd on the raging main,  
Till Christ, the Heavenly Pilot, takes the helm,  
Then into convoy Angels' charge is given,  
To guard from foes till anchored safe in Heaven.

William Hansard, master mariner, 1854, aged 27:—

The Neptune's waves and stormy winds  
Have toss'd to and fro,  
But by the providence of God, to harbour here below,  
I here at anchor safely ride  
With many of our fleet,  
Until the day of setting sail  
Our Saviour Christ to meet.

Rhodes Marshall, 1849, aged 48:—

A faithful friend and father dear,  
A loving husband now lies here.  
We by his death great loss sustain,  
But that is his eternal gain.  
He's moor'd in his cabin secure in the grave,  
No more shall he hear the big roar of the wave.  
He's silent in death in his cabin below  
Till the blast of the last great trumpet shall blow.

John Dishman, mariner, 1848, aged 65:—

Afflicted by our loss we lay him here,  
In silent sorrow e'en thy dust is dear,  
For never child shall weep nor neighbour bend  
O'er kinder parent or more faithful friend.

James Gribble, 1826 :—

Afflictions many to his lot did fall,  
With patience he endured them all.  
Oft the sea threatened him with a watery grave,  
But heaven from shipwreck kindly him did save.

Capt. Robert Parr, 1838, aged 37 :—

All cold beneath this narrow heap  
The earthly form of Robert sleeps,  
And here the ties of nature end,  
A tender father, husband, friend.

Thomas Phillips, "late mariner of this port," is made to say, composedly :—

Farewell, dear wife and friends, I bid you all adieu,  
For what was in my power I have done for you.

This next is an example of an acrostic. In some parts of England such epitaphs were not uncommon, but they are not frequent in the east of the country. Powers Iliff, 1830, was not a native: he came from Crick, in Northamptonshire.

P eaceful! beneath this spot a husband sleeps,  
O 'er his remains his hapless widow weeps,  
W hile seven brothers their sad loss deplore,  
E ach of their sisters drink of sorrow's store,  
R ecalling oft to mind the painful end  
S o sorely felt by our departed friend.

I n life he was by many much beloved,  
L amented much now death hath him removed.  
I n life above oh! may we meet again,  
F ree from death's power, free also from his pain,  
F or ever there that freedom to maintain.

Perhaps some correspondents may furnish us with other examples of acrostics in the Fenland.

Theophilus, fourth son of Joshua and Mary Ann Bloomer, of Birmingham, 1832 :—

Here lies the remains of a worthy young man,  
Who lingered with illness to the end of his span.  
Kings, Princes and peasants, at Death's words must fall,  
For Death, the great leveller, levels them all.

James Barwick, 1845 :—

Within this tomb here lieth one  
Whose precious soul to heaven has gone.  
Snatched from this stage into a dusty tomb  
In full vigour and manly bloom.  
Since he has gone no joy I here shall have  
Till laid with him within the silent grave.  
There may we meet and quietly remain  
Till by God's power we meet in heaven again.

Thomas Davey, 1836 :—

Stranger, this is a soldier's grave,  
And simple and short is his story.  
He fell not in battle among the brave,  
Though he bled in the ranks of glory.  
He lived in faith and trust in his God,  
Though rough and thorny paths he meekly trod.

This next verse occurs frequently :—

While in this world I did remain,  
My latter days were full of pain ;  
But when the Lord did think it best  
He took me to His place of rest.

Many of the lines speak words of resignation. These are a few of such verses.

Ann Cartwright, 1831 :—

Why should we mourn departed friends,  
Or shake at death's alarms ?  
'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends  
To call them to his arms.

Rebecca, wife of Thos. Goodacre, 1818 :—

Now let my pains be all forgot,  
My heart no more repine,  
My sufferings are not worth a thought  
When, Lord, compared with thine.

William Leedam, 1853 :—

Wife, children and friends, farewell for a while,  
The tear on your cheek will give place to a smile.  
If ye be found faithful the time soon will come  
When Jesus will call you to meet me at home.

Elizabeth, wife of Robert Smith, shipbuilder, 1838 :—

Why weep for you ? Ye heed not now  
The tears that o'er your tomb we shed,  
You're blessed ! and ye need not now our sighs for you,  
the happy dead !  
Then be your tomb with roses twin'd, and be your grave  
with lilies spread.  
Let's weep for those you've left behind, and not for you,  
the happy dead.

A common subject for lines is a warning to survivors.

Samuel Whitworth, 1827 :—

Stay, passenger, and view my fate,  
Stand and compose thy mind,  
Death's no regard to rich or great,  
You're but one step behind !

Anthony Parker, 1843 :—

How numerous are the mouldering dead,  
How fast our lives decline.  
How soon thy tombstone may be read  
Though now thou readest mine !

Mary, wife of Samuel Whitworth, 1844 :—

All you that on my stone do cast an eye,  
Prepare to live as you would wish to die.

Sarah Reynolds, 1840 :—

Death does not always warning give,  
Therefore be careful how you live.

Abraham Leedam, 1843 :—

Precarious is our term of life below,  
When it shall cease not one of us shall know.  
Behold an awful proof before your view :  
At morn I rose in health as strong as you.  
At noon, when shone the sun's meridian light,  
Death closed my being in mysterious night.

The above are but a few taken as specimens from a very large number. Although it may not be thought desirable to engrave verses of such a distinctly personal character on memorial stones, for the modern practice is rather to select an appropriate text from Holy Scripture, or a few lines from some familiar hymn, yet there is nothing whatever, in any of the verses quoted above, to which objection could be taken.

**899.—Alderland.**—For a thousand years the fens called Goggisland and Alderland have been deemed a part of the ancient endowment of the Convent of Crowland : but the Abbot's rights in Goggisland were challenged by the men of Deeping, and the Abbot of Burgh would never suffer him to enjoy Alderland in peace. The strife with Deeping had the sting of ingratitude, for the whole of that manor belonged of old to Crowland, and the parish Church had been a cell of the Abbey till the Danes dispossess the Abbot : but the claim of the Abbot of Burgh was as old as their own. It could not be disputed that he held the Hundred of the Nesse of Burgh in fee, but was Alderland a part of the Nesse ? and was it in the shire of Northampton or in that of Lincoln ?

Alfred, King of All England,\* divided the kingdom into shires, hundreds, and tithings. The hundred of the Nesse, afterwards called the Nesse of Burgh, lies at the north end of Northamptonshire, between the rivers Nene and Welland,

\* All England, *i.e.*, as formed by the union of the Saxon kingdoms.

which form the boundaries between that shire and those of Huntingdon, Cambridge, and Lincoln. At Peterborough, where the Nene divided into two streams, the main stream flowing eastwards formed the boundary between Huntingdon and the Isle of Ely, the minor stream flowing northwards separated the Nesse of Burgh from the Isle of Ely and Lincolnshire, uniting with the Welland at Crowland. When "all carts which came to Crowland were shod with silver," small value attached to the possession of the adjacent fens. The pursuits of the fisher and the fowler, and the gradual encroachment on a fen which was under water half the year, would not be noticed; but in A.D. 1202, when King John, by a charter, confirmed the Abbot of Crowland in his possessions, expressly named Alderland, and indicated the boundaries between the possessions of Burgh and Crowland, the Abbot of Burgh could not stand quietly by. Ingulph, the historian of Crowland, says that Acharius, Abbot of Burgh, ever striving to increase the possessions of his convent, coveted our fen called Alderland, which from the foundation of our convent our fathers before us had held in peace. In the suit which followed, the title of Crowland was supported by charters of Kings Edred, Edgar, A.D. 966, and Edward the Confessor, A.D. 1048. King Edgar's charters purported to recite that King Edred granted the fen adjacent to the west side of Crowland, separated from Eye Fen as marked by stone crosses, and proceeded to set out the bounds thereof, thus:

"Una cum mariscis et alnetis adjacentibus versus occidentem ex opposito ejusdem insulæ in comitatu Lincoln in omnibus connexis et respondentibus et per hos limites determinatos, viz<sup>t</sup>. a Nomansland per aquam de Nene versus occidentem usque ad Fineston ubi crux lapidea defixa est juxta ripam et unde usque ad Greynes et sic usque ad Folkwardstaking\* et unde usque ad Suthlake ubi Suthlake cadit in Weland et sic trans-eundo eandem aquam ad Kenulphston juxta ripam ex opposito

\* Called Fowlers' Stake in 1570.



de Suthlake ubi Abbas Kenulphus posuit crucem lapideam pro limite inter Croyland et Deping."

"Together with the fens and alder beds, adjoining the west side of the said isle, within the following specified limits for all purposes to be attached to and doing service in the County of Lincoln, viz<sup>t</sup>.: from Nomansland to the west by the river Nene as far as Fineston where the stone cross stands near the bank, and then as far as Greynes and thence to Folkwards-taking and thence to Southlake where it falls into the Welland and thence across the river to Kenulph's stone on the bank opposite to Southlake where the Abbot Kenulph placed the stone cross as a boundary between Crowland and Deeping."\*

By another clause the King forbad any of his officers of the shire of Northampton to interfere in any way within the said limits of Crowland fen. King Edward's charter was to the like effect, naming the fens called Alderland and Goggisland.†

The suit of ejectment between the rival Abbots was terminated at Lexington, in 1206, by a "final concord," whereby the Abbot of Crowland acknowledged that the fen called Alderland was parcel of the fee of the Abbot of Burgh, who granted that the Abbot of Crowland should hold Alderland of him, subject to the service of rendering 4 pounds of wax every year at the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul. That agreement was supplemented by a grant of A.D. 1216, conceding the right to dig turves, clay and sand, to cut herbage and reeds, the Abbot of Crowland to enjoy the fishing of the Welland from Suthlake to Crowland, and of the Nene from Crowland Bridge to Nomans-landhirn, and further the Abbot of Burgh conceded "so far as in him lay that that part of the vill of Crowland which is built within Alderland south of the Nene, should thereafter be deemed annexed and subject to the county of Lincoln provided that no more buildings should

\* See also Art. 850.

† Alderland, called Crowland Fen, includes about 1,000 acres; Goggisland includes 2,600 acres. A "lake" was under water in winter time.

be erected or inclosures made without the licence of the Abbot of Burgh."

The final concord did not make an end of disputes between the Abbots. The men of Burgh rooted up the trees which the Abbot of Crowland planted in Alderland, and disturbed the markets and fair which he attempted to hold there. Afterwards Abbot Richard impleaded William, Abbot of Burgh, because contrary to the agreement made between their predecessors at Lexington, he frequently hindered the men of Crowland from using stallages at market and fair time, and sought to take toll at Crowland Bridge, so that neither Crowland men nor others who came could freely pass with their animals. This ended in a "final concord" made at Northampton, A.D. 1247, whereby the Abbot of Burgh waived his right to hold any fair within Alderland, and acknowledged the right of the Abbot of Crowland to erect stalls and to take tolls and make attachments at the Bridge. For this concession, William de Hotot, at the instance of the Abbot of Crowland, granted to the Abbot of Burgh an annual rent issuing out of land held in villenage at Folksworth. Yet again, a contention arose about the county boundaries. In 1278, the Abbot of Burgh held the hundred court of the Nesse in Alderland in spite of the resistance of the men of Crowland. This affair was ended by the return to the King's writ.

At an inquisition held before the sheriff of Lincoln, the jury found that the part of Crowland within Alderland and that fen as described in the King's charters, formed a part of the county of Lincoln, and was accustomed to do suit and service to that county.

This made an end of the claim of the Abbot of Burgh, leaving him with a rent of 4 lbs. of wax for his estate of inheritance in the part of Eye-fen called Alderland. But the boundary between Borough Great Fen and Alderland or Crowland Fen was not so well known as to remove all conflict of interests between the men of Burgh and the men of Crow-

land ; so it happened after the Reformation that law suits and discords arose between the tenants of the Crown manor of Crowland and the free tenants of the Nesse of Burgh “touching a common pasture of a thousand acres lying between our manor of Crowland and the Nesse of Burgh.”

In 1567,\* the Queen’s writ was issued for an inquisition to be holden to determine the metes and bounds of the common pasture called Alderland : but there was no “final concord” about the matter till 1584, when the boundary between Borough Great Fen and Alderland was fixed by the award of referees.

The interrogatories in those suits in the Exchequer were very searching, *e.g.* :—

Interrogatories on the part of Or Sovg<sup>n</sup> Ladie the Queen against John Collingham and John ffetherston tennants of the Soke of Peterborough in the countie of Northampton.

Item whether the said common or marys of a thousand acres be within the countie of Lincoln or within the countie of Northampton.

Item whether the said common or marys is divided from the said Soke of Peterborough by the metes and bounds following, that is to say, by Seynte Outlake Crosse and so to No-mans-landes-hurn and thence to finsett Crosse and to the Greyne Ings and from thence to fullers Stake and from thence to South lake and so to Kennall Stone.

Item whether doe not all the inhabytants dwellinge on the south syde of the Triangle bridge of Croilande adjoininge upon the sayd marishe of Alderlande alwaies appeire at Spaldinge Sessions as ther occasion serveth and pay ther taxe and ffyfteene within the s<sup>d</sup> parties of Holland as doe the rest of the inhabytants of the s<sup>d</sup> towne of Croilande.

Item whether the inhabitants of Croilande have used from tyme to tyme in rogacon weeke to goe or rowe on ther procession by the s<sup>d</sup> water called Southlake to a place called Kenulphs-stone the uttermoste bound of the s<sup>d</sup> towne of Croilande of the north west and by the water of Neene unto finsett crosse the uttermost bound of the towne upon the south east, yea or no.

And on behalf of the Bishop of Peterborough and his tenants these :—

Item whether the Abbot of Peterborough did ever kepe enye courte at Triangle Bridge in Crowland or use as is the right of the said monasterie of Peterborough or how longe syns the same was kepte.

Item whether the Wyndmill at Crowland townsend be within the countie of Northampton or in the countie of Lyncoln yea or noe.

Item whether the water commonly called Southlake or Heddyke lake runnyng by the Heddyke is the ould streame called Wayland which parted the counties of Lyncoln and Northampton or noe and how know ye this to be true ?

\* Exchr. Spl. Comm., No. 1275.

The last clause was likely to puzzle the oldest inhabitants. Many witnesses were called. Maurice Beckswell, of Single-sole, in the county of Cambridge, aged 68, said :

I know Alderland marsh. It lies in Lincolnshire. It's called Crowland Common. I have seen the Sheriff's bailiffs and other the Queen's officers of the county of Lincoln and towne of Crowland serve processe and other warrants upon the inhabitants dwelling on the south side of Triangle bridge. I have not known the sheriff or his officers of the county of Northampton serve any processe there but I have heard otherwise. I knew one John Nunton that dwelt on the south side of the Triangle bridge which did steale one oxe out of Alderlande of the goods of Mr. ffetherstone of Deeping-gate and killed it in the fenne and brought it to his said house and being there found in his chamber he was apprehended and carried to Lincoln gayle.

Randall Pryor, of Glinton, said :

The marys ground specified in the interrogatory is called Borough fenn and Eye fen. For 30 years I have at will and pleasure stocked cattle on the marys. The freeholders and other inhabitants of Borough Soke for the space of 30 years have used to cut mowe and take and carry away in and out of the said marys groundes ffother, ffenstufte, sallowes and sedge growing there. I and the rest of my neighbours at Glinton did the like.

The bounds of Alderland could not be easily mistaken. The referees\* followed the old lines, in their certificate "from ffynsett Crosse to Greynes and from thence to ffowlers Stake and so to Southlake and from thence along by the said lake unto the ryver of Wayland where Southlake falleth thereinto." In the result the Commissioners, in respect of the rights of intercommonage which had been enjoyed by the men of the Soke, decreed that

400 acres should be held in severaltie for the tenants of Borough Soke next to Borough Fenn, to be divided by a straight line. The men of Borough to make a fosse or dyke 20 feet wide before 1584, and the same to be roaded kept and skowred by Crowland.

A line struck from Kenulph's stone to Vincent's Cross separated the 400 acres from Alderland, and this was in 1819 taken for the boundary of the parish of Newborough,† in the Acts of 52 Geo. 3, c. cxliii., and 59 Geo. 3, c. clxxvii.,

For draining, inclosing, and improving the lands called Borough Fen Common and the Four Hundred Acre Common in the County of Northampton and for forming the same into a parish to be called Newborough and for building and endowing a church for such parish.

\* James Claypole and Adam Smyth for Peterborough, Richard Middleton and Robert Wyche for Crowland. The certificate refers to a true platte certified into the Exchequer.

† The Award is directed to be enrolled with the Clerk of the Peace of the Liberty, and deposited and kept in the Cathedral Church of Peterborough.

The old boundaries between Borough Fen and Alderland have been adopted as the limits of the Liberty of the Nesse of Burgh, and of the County of Northampton: but by repute the natural boundary formed by the confluence of the rivers Nene and Welland, and chosen by King Alfred, has survived in tradition. As late as 1691, in a tithe suit relating to the extra-parochiality of Borough Fen, the witnesses testified that that part of the manor of Crowland, known as Alderland, lies within the County of Northampton.\* L.G.

900.—**Lincoln Cathedral.**—I enclose two cuttings from *The Stamford Mercury*: the dates are (I.) 29 Sep., 1820, and (II.) 30 Nov., 1821. H.R.S.

## (I.)

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL.—The North tower of this beautiful fabric, (in which tower Great Tom hangs,) is at this time undergoing repair, by being braced with iron screwed in the interior; already about five ton weight of iron has been thus disposed of. For some years Great Tom's duty has been passive; whenever his tone has been heard, it has been produced either by clock-work, or by a rope fastened to his tongue and passed over a wheel; but the work now performing, it is expected, will so far strengthen the tower, that we may expect again to hear Tom's fine full natural tone, as thundered forth when he is *thrown up*,—an operation which requires the united power of 10 or 12 men.—The mode resorted to of applying strength to towers, is not uncommon: Stamford has a church so braced with iron,—and since the application of this strengthener, two bells have been added to the peal, in a steeple which was before considered dangerous. The plan has been adopted at Lincoln, we understand, on the recommendation of Mr. Smeeton, the celebrated architect of the Eddystone light-house.

## (II.)

Many of the admirers of Lincoln Cathedral have for several years past, and with too much reason, entertained some melancholy forebodings as to the future stability of the towers of that interesting edifice; the large fissures which were to be seen in the walls of all of them, showed that the ruthless hand of time was bringing on a quick decay. To relieve the enfeebled walls of the two western towers from a great and perhaps superfluous weight, the spires on those towers were about 13 years ago taken down; and with a hope of strengthening them, ties of iron and wood were fixed from wall to wall. The Dean and Chapter are still anxiously discharging their duty as guardians of the venerable fabric; about three years ago they took the opinions of eminent architects as to the state of the towers, and the best means of preserving them; the result was, a determination to brace them by strong bars of iron. During the two past summers, workmen have been employed in the execution of this design upon the two western towers, both which are nearly completed; and next summer it is intended to apply the same preservative means to the Rood Tower. The iron bars used are one inch thick and four

\* *Irby v. Perno. Exchr. Depos. by Comm.*

inches broad; those on the inside are carried through the wall at both ends, and through a corresponding bar on the outside, and these are held by a nut screw fixed on with the greatest possible force. These bars are thus applied both within and without to the four sides of the tower, those on the outside go entirely round it; they are so fastened together as to form a hoop, and are tied to the inside bars by several strong iron bolts. Five of these hoops external and internal are fixed at proper distances from the roof of the church to the top of the tower; and though some of the fissures are of an alarming size in all the towers, there is great reason to believe that these judicious measures will prevent them from increasing, and will give a further duration of some centuries to this grand specimen of the piety, ability and taste of our ancestors. The outside hoops are let into the walls and painted, so as not to be seen by a casual observer. The weight of iron used upon each of the west towers is above six tons. The walls of those towers are six feet thick. The broad towers measure within the walls 39 feet, and 53 feet without.—It is supposed that these works, when they are completed, will have cost the Dean and Chapter between three and four thousand pounds. The iron work is executed by Mr. Fowler, whitesmith.

**901.—Early Ely Wills.**—These abstracts and notes of early Ely wills and administrations are from the earliest book of the Consistory Court of Ely, now in the District Probate Registry at Peterborough.

Thomas Lane of Ely: dated 5 Feb., 1453, proved 16 Mar., 1453. Fo. 9.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Mary. To high altar . . . . . To sustentation of church 2s. To John Chapman, chaplain . . . . . to celebrate for my soul. To Matilda my wife . . . . . 2 mares, 3 cows, 10 ewes, 3 acres of corn, half acre and rood of winter-wheat (*siliginis*), 2 acres *de falon*, 3 acres of brokeland, the common rights (*communiam integraliter*), and all house utensils. To Thomas my son black mare and 7 lambhogs. To William my son 2 dark grey horses, 4 ewes, 1 black steer, and more if he behaves himself (*et melius si bene se erga me exhibuit*). To John Pyedy my servant half acre of brokeland lying in depdyn. Residue in hands of John Pyedy, at the rede cros, and wife Matilda, exors., to dispose for my soul. Witnesses, Simon Davy, William Barbor, Thomas Clark.

John Fordham of Ely: dated 20 June, 1453, proved 14 July, 1453. Fo. 10.

To be buried in churchyard of Holy Trinity near tomb of Matilda my wife. To high altar 20d. To the parish priest 12d. My *hospicium* in Ely in le brodlane, between the tenements of Thomas Parsons on the south and Thomas Tolboth on the north, to be sold by Dom. William Clerc, chaplain of the Green, and William Brewode, my feoffees of the said *hospicium*, for the best price they can; from proceeds my debts to be paid, and a chaplain to celebrate for souls of myself, and Matilda and Margaret my wives, John Fordham once Bishop of Ely, my parents and benefactors, &c. Residue of proceeds of sale among my 3 daughters, Margaret, Albreda, and Joan; Margaret to have one half, and the others each one quarter. Residue to exors., William Clec, chaplain, and William Brewode, for health of my soul. Witnesses, Thomas Wygenale, parish priest, Dom. John Seman, chaplain, Thomas Muncy, chaplain, &c.

Walter of Ely: dated 20 Dec., 1453, proved 1 Mar., 1453. Ib.

To high altar (church not named) 3s. 4d. To the roodloft 20d. To burial expenses, and on 7th day, and 30th day, 40s. To John my son 2 coverlets, *parhuthia*, and other clothing. To 2 daughters of my son John 6s. 8d. each: if either die her share to go to John and his wife. To Margaret my wife all utensils of house and a cow. To exors., Thomas Wygonhale, chaplain, and John Franks, 6s. 8d. each. Residue in their hands for health of my soul. Witnesses, Edmund Loche, John Fuller, Walter Wemer, &c.

Robert Warde, Chaplain of the Green: dated 30 Apr., 1454. Ib.

See ante, Vol. II., p. 95.

Robert Elye of Ely: dated 21 May, 1455, proved 7 June, 1455. Fo. 12.

Body to ecclesiastic sepulture. To high altar of Holy Trinity 20d. To Joan my wife 19 marks to be taken out of value of my cottage, &c., which was John Chaumpeyn's. To her also tenement with brewhouse (?). To her also 20 chaldrons of coal (*xx chaldres de carbonibus fabrorum*), and all utensils and stuff of household. To Thomas my son, if he shall choose to take holy orders and arrive at the priesthood, 5 marks: and to him, for support of his mother and her children while under age, messuage in which I dwell. To Richard Cook  $2\frac{1}{2}$  quarters of malt, and a coat of russet. To Agnes his wife  $2\frac{1}{2}$  quarters of malt. To Margaret my daughter 5 quarters of malt. To John Shayn one blue coat, and (for his diligence in attending to the sale of the coals I leave to my wife) 2 chaldrons of coal. A chaplain to celebrate for a year, to have 8 marks. Residue to exors., Thomas Wygenhale, chaplain, and John Botolf of Ely, each to have 6s. 8d. Witnesses, William Palfreyman, Richard Cook, William Plumbe, &c.

Alice, wife and relict of John Williamson of Ely, renounces administration of his effects. Fo. 13.

John Skyphon of Ely: dated 10 Apr., 1456, proved 17 Apr., 1456. Fo. 14.

To be buried in churchyard of Holy Trinity. To high altar 3s. 4d. To gild of S. George at Lynn, 6s. 8d. A priest to celebrate for me, my wife, parents, and benefactors, for a year. Exors., Margery my wife, Robert Pecok her son. Residue to them, &c., Witnesses, John Seman, chaplain, Robert Bruer, &c.

Simon Sawyer of Ely: dated 27 Sep., 1455, proved 10 (month and year not filled in). Ib.

To high altar of chapel of Holy Trinity 12d. To my wife all my household goods, and, out of value of tenement I live in, 40s. From same value 53s. 4d. to a fit chaplain to celebrate, &c., for half a year. From same to John Bell 40s. From same to Joan my daughter 40s. To wife of John Belle a brass pot. To Dom. John Seman a trentot\* of the gild of All Saints. To Richard Plomer 3s. 4d. Residue to John Belle and Richard Plomer, exors., to dispose, &c. Witnesses, John Botell, John Ellyck.

\* Probably an office book.

Administration of effects of William Clerk and his wife of Ely. Fo. 15.

Robert Bruer of Ely, "aliter vocatus Robertus Payn": dated 27 Dec., 1455, proved 7 Sep., 1456. Fo. 15.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Mary. To high altar 3s. 4d. To repairs 3s. 4d. To John Chapman, chaplain, 12d. To Alice my wife tenement for life, a good and honest priest to celebrate for my soul and of my friends deceased for a year. After her death tenement to be sold and disposed for my soul, &c. Residue to wife, exor. Supervisor, William Clerk, chaplain of the Green, *in quo confidenciam gero speciale*. Witnesses, Walter Farnham, John Samson, Nicholas Tyler, &c.

William Bug of Ely: dated 1 Sep., 1456, proved 23 Oct., 1456. Ib.

To high altar of S. Mary 12d. To fabric a quarter of barley. To Joan my wife a cow. To John my son a calf of a year old. To Agnes my daughter another. To each of my boys a ewe. Residue to Joan my wife for her support and that of my boys. Exors., Thomas Beton and Richard Palfrayman, to each 20d. Witnesses, John Chapman, chaplain, Thomas Beton, &c.

Robert Styward of Ely: dated 29 Sep., 1456, proved 27 Dec., 1456. Ib.

To be buried in churchyard of Holy Trinity. To high altar 12d. To chapel of S. Mary 12d. To William my son a bed suitable to his condition (*unum lectum competentem gradui suo*), a basin and ewer. Residue to Margerie my wife. Exors., wife and Richard Plomer. Witnesses, John Wellys, Thomas Barbe, &c.

Robert Benyt of Ely: dated 8 Mar., 1455, proved 18 Jan., 1456. Fo. 16.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Mary. To high altar 12d. For certain services for a year 12d. To repairs 3s. 4d. To each house of friars equal part of 10s. To Katherine my wife tenement I dwell in and 4 acres and a rood of arable land for life. Then to be disposed by my exors. and supervisors for the salvation of my soul, in works of piety, in celebration of masses, and in bestowing of alms. But part may be sold by my wife if she have necessity. To her also all my household stuff, and all my beasts except one ewe, which I give to Alice her daughter. Alice also to have a brass pot holding a gallon. Also to my wife 10s. out of sale of my lands in fields of Ely. To chaplain to celebrate for a year in S. Mary's for my soul, Matilda my late wife, my ancestors, and all faithful deceased, 8 marks. To John Smyth for his labour 3s. 4d. To Thomas Roos 3s. 4d. To Dom. John Downham jun. 3s. 4d. To Thomas Clerk 2s. Residue to John Smyth and Thomas Roos, exors., to dispose, &c. Supervisor, Dom. John Downham jun.

Administration of effects of Agnes Penkryche of Ely. Ib.

Administration of effects of Katharine wife of John Grene of Ely. Ib.



Walter Farmer of Ely: dated 12 Feb., 1456, proved 14 Mar., 1456. Fo. 17.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Mary. To high altar 6s. 8d. To fabric 6s. 8d. To John Chapman, chaplain, 2s. To an honest priest to celebrate, &c., for a year 8 marks. To Margaret my wife all household stuff. To each of my 3 maidservants, Joan, Agnes sen., and Agnes jun., one whole bed, viz., "le underclothe, le Matras," a pair of sheets and a counterpane, also a brass pot and a pan. To John Newton my blue coat. To John Gryffin a cloak (*epitogium*) with a hood. Residue to exors. for debts, health of my soul, &c. Exors., wife and Nicholas Chaundler, supervisor, he to have 3s. 4d. Witnesses, William de la Grene, John Chapman, chaplain, John Ealey, butcher, &c.

Walter Turner of Ely: dated 6 Apr., 1457, proved 30 Apr., 1457. Fo. 19.

To high altar of S. Mary 12d. To fabric 2s. To John, chaplain, 12d. Residue to Margerie my wife, exor. Witnesses, John Chapman aforesaid, Richard Eustace, &c.

Elena Hamschere of Ely, widow: dated 25 Nov., 1454, proved 20 Dec., 1454. Fo. 37.

To high altar 8d. To repairs of S. Mary's church 3s. 4d. For 100 masses 10s. To prior and convent of cathedral church 10s. Edward Emlyn my son to have tenement, to find a chaplain to celebrate as aforesaid, and to pay my daughter Agnes 40s. To Margaret Emlyn my daughter all utensils not bequeathed. To Agnes, Edward's daughter, brass pot, pan, 6 pieces *de plectro*, a meatcloth, a towel, a girdle embroidered with silver, 2 pairs sheets, 2 blankets, 8 towels, one coverlet, 2 pillows. To William Grey for his labour 6s. 8d. To Margaret his wife 6s. 8d., my best gown, my green hood, a brass pot, and a silver spoon. To Walter Grey my godson 12d. and a silver spoon. To his brother Robert 6d. To John Conyngton 10s. To Alice his wife a gown and a kerchief. To Elene their daughter 12d. and a silver spoon. To Robert Conyngton my brother 6s. 8d., 6 yards of murrey, and one yard of blankets. To Joan his wife my gown of russet and a kerchief. To Elene servant of Edward Emlyn 6s. 8d., a kirtle, a collar, and a kerchief. To John Clyfton my green gown, a kerchief, a pair of sheets, and a coverlet. To Joan Emlyn a pair of sheets, a blanket, and a coverlet. To Agnes, daughter of Edmund Tyler 12d. To Nicholas, son of John Lange 6d. To Elene Bugge my goddaughter 6d. Residue to exors., Edmund Emlyn and William Grey, to dispose, &c. Witnesses, Thomas Manory, chaplain, John Conyngton, Edmund Tylere, &c.

William Smythe of Ely, Butcher: dated 30 Nov., 1454, proved 22 Dec., 1454. Ib.

To be buried in churchyard of Holy Trinity. To high altar 6d. To the making of a roodloft 12d. To repairs of S. Mary's church 5s. To my brother John, of Lynn, 2s. 6d. To distribute among four orders of friars at Cambridge 10s. To the poor 20d. To distribute among poor for the soul of my father 5s. To Agnes my wife all household stuff, the tenement in which she lives, and my tiled shop in the Butchery (*meam opellam tegulatam in bochery*) with the tenement behind it. Also to her my tenement in S. Mary's parish, and the half of my beasts. To Walter Swyfte my son my other shop near the aforesaid. To Margaret his wife a calf. To Agnes my maid-servant a calf. Residue to disposal of my wife, exor. Witnesses, Thomas Pro, Thomas Macroo, Richard Tylere.

**902.—Bishop Kennett's Speech on the Custody of Public Records.**—White Kennett, D.D., Bishop of Peterborough from 1718 to 1728, is not to be surpassed as a laborious and conscientious antiquary, but things ecclesiastical and civil engrossed his attention, and he disregarded the history of the Fenland. His "Parochial Antiquities" was published in 1695, and his last and best known work, "A Register and Chronicle, Ecclesiastical and Civil," in 1728. It is a prodigy of diligence. Possibly the continuous attention involved in this work caused the illness which terminated the Bishop's life. The preface is dated March 1st, and his death occurred on 17th May following.\*

Sessions of Sewers have been woefully neglected. Among the Public Records there are not forty transcripts of inquisitions holden from the time of Richard II. to Henry VIII.—not a tithe of what there should be; and these are fragmentary and partially illegible. There must be drainage inquisitions at Lincoln, with the unrivalled series of records of that diocese;† but at Ely, where one might expect to find volumes of inquisitions, there is but one among the Episcopal records.‡

But the Bishop strove bravely against the neglect of our national records.

In 1689, in response to an Address of the House of Lords relating to the disorder and confusion of the Public Records, King William III. considered the matter, but it was not till 1703 that a committee was appointed "to consider of the method of keeping records in offices and to consider the ways to remedy what should be found amiss."

\* White Kennett, born at Dover, 10 Aug., 1660. He formed an antiquarian and historical library at Peterborough of about 1,500 volumes, which is now in the chapel over the west entrance to the Cathedral. There is a mezzotint portrait of him engraved by Faber in 1719.

† The Lincoln Episcopal Registers commence in 1209. There is a break from 1547 to 1560, and between 1608 and 1660. It is said that four folios were lost in the transit from Buckden Palace, when the Bishop of Lincoln ceased to reside there. The Palace was one of the "wonders of Huntingdonshire." It consisted of two quadrangles, with a gatehouse tower, within a moat. Bishop Russell, 1480—1494, completed the Palace, and his device, a throstle with the legend "Je suis le Ruscelay," is over the gateway and on the bosses in the dining hall, which in 1841 was used as the village school-room. The site and buildings were sold by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners 50 years ago. Four Bishops are buried in the parish church of Buckden.

‡ Ely Episcopal Records, by Alfred Gibbons, F.S.A., 1891.

This Committee was revived in 1718, and on that occasion Bishop Kennett made his maiden speech in the House.\*

My Lords, I have been such a lover of public papers and records that I take liberty to speak somewhat upon this subject. I cannot but express myself mightily pleased that a Committee is appointed for so good a purpose. I doubt not but they will very honourably discharge the trust committed to them and deserve thanks for the service they shall do to this House, for the service and honour they will do to the whole nation and to all posterity. My Lords, I will presume to say that no nation has been so happy in preserving so vast a multitude of their ancient muniments and records as our English nation has been from the time of the Norman Conquest (as they call it) which is near 700 years. We have more original manuscripts and papers of our political and historical affairs than any one nation, perhaps than all the nations in Europe have, and we should have had many more if my Lords, your noble ancestors had frequently taken the same care that your Lordships are now taking to examine into the state and condition of the public records and into the strength and safety of the places wherein they are deposited.

For want of that due care how many of those precious reliques have been embezeld, have been sunk and lost! At one time, a whole ship load of them pickt up by the Pope's collector, Polydore Virgil, was sent to be sunk about Rochester Bridge when he had ransacked the nation for them and put them up in chests and bales in order to transport them to Rome and after that shipwrek, my Lords, when that cargo was lost in the river (as tradition and some historical intimation say) very many of our deeds and evidences were stolen away and carried off to Rome especially those relating to our religious houses to be ready there for a papal Act of Resumption; they plundered our monasteries and churches; they broke into our royal closets and cabinets. It will make your Lordships smile, they stole away the very love letters of our Princess and shew them in the Vatican for an insult upon our Reformation.

My lords, besides what we have lost to Rome, we have been losers to all popish countries. There is no English seminary abroad but what has too many of our manuscripts and loose papers in them especially the Jesuites College where they best know the arts and what they call the pious frauds of stealing; and I doubt my Lords, they still employ their missionaries to seek out and lay hands on all they can find of our old writings and so by degrees they will exhaust the nation of a treasure inestimable because of doubt in their hands irrecoverable. But, my Lords, the more we want, the more necessity we have to preserve what is left to us; there has been in the House a noble spirit of that kind, too well known that the greatest and one would have thought the safest repository of our public deeds and evidences was in the Tower of London and yet there was a just complaint of some loss and damage in them, upon which this house appointed a committee to look into them and alas, in what a condition did they find them? The parchments and papers in the White Tower was like damaged goods in a grocers shop matted together with wet and spoil; if they took up one paper three or four more came up sticking to one another. But, my lords, that noble committee took care to redress that mischief, that scandal I may justly call it, they took care to have the Bulls and Rescripts, the Charters, Patents, Claus writs and other curious remains to be

\* Lords Journals, 9 Dec., 1718. Ordered that the Committee appointed to inspect the repairs of the Parliament office be revived, and that it be an instruction to the said Committee to view the Records of the Court of Chancery in the Tower and those fit to be carried thither; also to consider what place there is proper to receive them; and likewise to view all such other Public Records as they shall think fit, and in what manner and place the same are now kept.

cleaned, to be sorted, to have new apartments for them, to be laid up in such order and to give such an easy access to them as is very much for the honour of the Crown and the liberty of the subject.

My Lords, I expect the like good service will come of the Committee now appointed. I am glad to hear it moved that some larger powers shall be committed to them. I could wish they would examine into all our public offices of Record, the Rolls, the Remembrance Office, and any others, nay that they would look into the noble library here adjoining, full of our public memoirs, the Cotton Library that has been settled under the authority of Parliament, and is worthy to be still under the care and protection of this House. My Lords, I am afraid I am so much a stranger in this House as not to know how to form a regular motion in it; but I have framed some good wishes at least. My wishes are that the care of this Committee may extend as far as possible and do all the good thats possible.

I was this morning in a Public Office of Record where I saw a very large trunk filled with parchments and papers and was informed that all those old writings were lately picked up in several parts of the town and country and sent in that trunk for a present to the office by the Remembrancer of it to be sorted and laid up there in the most proper place for them. From that good example I cannot but wish that all private persons that have any deeds and property belonging to any public office might be, I would not say obliged, but might be encouraged to bring them to some public place of receipt from which they might be distributed into those several offices. This would soon enrich every office and improve every where this part of the Public Treasury of the nation: but I am afraid, my Lords, I am saying too much, I beg pardon, I say no more.\*

The Bishop complained of the corruption of history by writers, who by dilating and expatiating, by adding circumstances, drawing consequences, offering conjectures, and indulging their own inventions, make up a story instead of relating it. For himself he was content to pass for a dull collector, confined to the drudgery of stooping, searching, poring, picking out, and putting together deeds, records, and other evidences, which may prove of service to the world, knowing that historical writings without proper authorities to support and confirm them, are but like the draft of a deed without hand and seal to it, or as the proposal of a law without any sanction. "Once upon a time" is enough for a common tale: but he loved facts and dates so that one day telleth another, and one night certifieth another. But *where* could he find the Records?

The records of Parliament and Chancery had been deposited in rooms in the Tower, in 1567, by direction of Queen

\* Lans. MSS., 1039.

Elizabeth, in order to avoid "such danger and spoil as theretofore had happened to the like records in the time of Richard II. and Henry VI." Prynne, who was appointed Keeper of the Tower Records by Charles II., refers in a report to "His Majesty's especial care, as it was his royal predecessors to preserve the ancient records not only from fire and sword but water, moths, canker, dust, cobwebs for your own and your kingdom's honour and service, they being such sacred relics, such peerless jewels that your noble ancestors have estimated no places so fit to preserve them in as consecrated chapels and royal treasuries."†

The Bishop was not the last to raise his voice to rescue our public records from neglect, but a full investigation was not made till the year 1800. Then the House of Commons appointed a Select Committee, whose labours resulted in the Record Report of 1800.‡ Until 1838, the Records were dispersed in twenty places, now they are collected in one building, where the facilities of investigation offered to the public invite research and open to us an insight into English history, which was denied to our forefathers. The Act for keeping safely the Public Records, 1838, 1 and 2 Vict., c. 94, recites, "whereas the Public Records are in the keeping of several persons and many are kept in unfit buildings, and it is expedient to establish one Record office and a better custody and to allow the free use of the said Records as far as stands with their safety and integrity and with the Public Policy of the Realm," and directs all the Records belonging to the Crown to be placed in the custody of the Master of the Rolls.

L. G.

† The Admiralty Records were in Caesar's Chapel; Chancery Records in the Wakefield Tower. Domesday, that memorable record, was kept in the Chapter House at Westminster. The State Papers were in the Gatehouse Tower. Entries of Fines and Recoveries at Paper Buildings, Temple; the Rolls, at the Rolls Chapel Office, Chancery Lane.

‡ In response to the inquiries of the Select Committee, Mr. N. Hudson, the Chapter Clerk, returned that there were no original records, rolls, instruments, registers, or manuscript books, or papers in the custody of the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough, except some old Court Rolls relating to the manors of the Church, and some annual accounts which were kept in a deal case in a place in the Church called the Chapter House; but see the Report.

**903.—Domestic News, 1711.**—Under this heading *The Grub-street Journal* for 9 March, 1711, gives a number of paragraphs from contemporary papers. Among these we find the following :—

From Stamford *we hear*, that Mr. Anthony Drought,  
Returning home from thence, his way *not finding out*,  
Was unfortunately drown'd. From Lincoln they tell,  
That a man drawing water fell into a well.  
From James-Deeping in Lincolnshire, that *in tossing up a pot*  
Two persons *try'd their strength*, 'till one died on the spot. *S.J.*

The trial of strength referred to in the last two lines was to see which of the two men could drink most beer. The last letters give the paper from which the extract is taken, viz., the *S. James's Evening Post* for 2 March.

**904.—Topham, the Strong Man (870).**—In the January number of *Fenland Notes and Queries* I see on p. 16 a reference to the visit of Topham, the Strong Man, to Peterborough. I send herewith a paper of mine on the Cambridge newspapers in which there is reprinted an advertisement of Topham's visit to Cambridge in 1749. I think you may be interested in seeing this.

ROBERT BOWES.

Thomas Topham, Commonly call'd the Strong-Man. Intends to perform several Feats of Strength, On Monday next from Eleven o'clock to One in the Afternoon, at the old Town Hall, opposite the Market Hill, Cambridge, Such as Twisting a Poker round his Neck, two Inches and a Quarter in Circumference, and bending one over his bare left Arm three Inches round ; he lifts a Table six Foot long, by the strength of his Teeth, with Half a Hundred Weight hanging at the opposite End ; he lays his head on one chair and his Heels on another, suffers four Men to stand on him, and in that Position by the Motion of his Body, heaves them up and down ; he also rowls up a Pewter Dish, hard Metal, seven Pound Weight by the Strength of his Fingers ; and with one Hand gripes a Pewter Quart Pot both sides together ; he brakes a Rope that will bear the Draught of a Horse. He will sing the Song, Blow Boreas, &c. He will perform but once. Each Person to pay one Shilling. He has perform'd three Times in this University, the last nine Years since, with Applause and generous Encouragement.

The above is from the *Cambridge Journal* for 1 July, 1749.

**905.—Crowland Abbey.**—The fall of the south side of the nave of Crowland Abbey took place in a very high wind on March 2nd, 1820. There was a severe storm on the preceding day, doing great damage on the Lincolnshire coast ; and in the marsh many trees were blown down, and mills and barns overthrown.

G. TALBOT.

**906.—The Drainage of the Great Level (No. 3).—**

In 1478, when the Nene began to flow by Morton's Leam,\* Catswater afforded no passage for boats; there was hardly enough water for Thorney Mill, and the navigation of Pigs-water, the old course of the Nene to the Mere before Conquest Lode was cut, could have been of no commercial value in summer time. The truth is that the old watercourses of the Nene were only navigable in the winter. If Knute's dike† was not navigable, barges trailing from Lynn to Peterborough might be held for weeks on the Meres, waiting the rains of October and the upland flood.

The New Leam was navigable for barges all the year round, the rush of water which came with summer tempests, no longer stayed by the narrow channel of Stanground chare, could carry the haycocks from Wansford straight down to Wisbech: but the scouring of the Leam made something new to quarrel about. Contentions between the rival Abbots there had always been,‡ and the fen-men of the hundreds and the towns were ever at war about banks and drains, scouring and haffing, and common of reed, thack, hassock, and flag.§

According to the rules fixed by the Town Book of Wisbech, the men of that hundred, for their common in Wisbech High-fen, scoured, haffed, cleansed, and fermed the New Leam from Wisbech to Mid-fen Tree, and the town of Whittlesey

\* The Leam was made by the Bishop voluntarily, not by reason of any law of Sewers, so the records of the Commissioners could not furnish the history of the cutting of it; but the Bishop's successors were charged to do rooking and roading, by reason of ownership of the fishery, though the charge was forty times as much as the inheritance of the fishery was worth. 1621. Sergt. Athors' report.

† Knute's Dike als Sword Dike. Item we present a drayne called Sword dike wch beginneth neare Horsey Gate and goeth towards Ramsey wch parteth Whittlesey Kings delfe and ffarsett Kings delfe wch would drawe much water from Peterborough and also is a passage for vessells from Ramsey and other places to Peterborough and those parts wch is quite stopped upp by the owners and farmers of Horsey so that no vessells can passe that way but are forced to goe about by the Meares in rough wynds to the great danger and hazard of many men theyr lives. Wee pray that it may be opened and unstopt. 16 Sept. 1617 at Huntingdon.

‡ The County Boundaries in the Gt. Level were uncertain, hence the suits. In 1341, Thorney impleaded Ramsey about 3,800 acres of Marsh in Cambs. or Hunts. The jury after a view found that the holding was of the manor of Ramsey, in Hunts., whereof the bounds were by Gangested to Sheremere and from Sheremere to Hindeslake.

§ Several suits about Cantor's Doles in Whittlesey Field. Beale of Stanground v. Whittlesey. J. Tewkesbury, tenant of Horsey Farm, claimed the Doles as common for reed, thack, wood, and hassock. Flags furnished winter food for cattle; dried hassocks instead of turnips! Depos. by Comm., 15 Eliz., Mich. 13.

from thence to Muskdike: but which was Mid-fen Tree?\*

The Commissioners of Sewers did not remain idle; they were busy with the banks of the Welland, and the zigzaggy course of the Nene outfall below Wisbech called attention to that river again. It was vital to the cropping of the fens that that outfall should be free. It had always been a heavy charge to the men of Wisbech, and a cause of much grumbling. Why should they bear the burden of ridding the uplands of their water without bringing them under the charge of "acreshot"? This proved a great hindrance to the success of the Bishop's work, an enterprise far in advance of the times. In vain to tell the fenmen that drowning of their land was but "the fate of place." The Commissioners of Sewers' endeavour to clear the Nene outfall was checked, but they were constantly suppressing obstructions in the waterways about the Great Level. The precept addressed to Tydd S. Mary is one of many such:—

1570. I.

Richarde by divine providence Lord Bishoppe of Ely, Andrewe Perne deane of the Cathedral Church of Ely, Thomas Jethell doctor of lawe, Robert Balam, Thomas Menne, Jeofery Colvell, Thomas Hewer, Edward Styward, Francis Hynel, and Robert Styward, Commissioners for the Sewers appoynted by the Queene our sov<sup>r</sup>eigne lady amongst others for the Isle of Ely within the countie of Cambridge and the towne of Tydde Sente Marye in the countie of Lyncolne and the confynes of the same To all manner persons freeholders farmors tenants copyholders comoners havinge any weares stamper or other anoysance within any ryvers lodes lakes or common sewers within the hundreds of Ely and Wychford and menconed in the papers to this precept annexed Sendeth gretinge. Comandinge you and every of you on the behalfe of our Sov<sup>r</sup>eigne lady the Queene to see and cause for yor part that as well all such your weares stamper and other anoysances within any the said ryvers lodes lakes or comon sewers be reformed corrected and amended accordingly as in the sayd papers are expressed before the second day of November next ensuinge and sooner for such as be so ordered as also that all such other orders therein appoynted be put in due execution and kepte accordingly upon such severall paynes as in the sayde papers are expressed. In witnesse whereof to this precepte we have putte our seales and subscribed our names this tenthe day of Aprille in the xij<sup>th</sup> yere of the reigne of our Sov<sup>r</sup>eigne lady Elizabeth the by the grace of God Queene of England fraunce and Ireland defender of the ffaythe &c.

\* Present: of Jury, 1611. Item we finde that the river from Wisbich Hye bridge to a place called the Mouthe is for the most parte growne up and very foule and should be cleaned by Wisbich men, being a comon water to the Towne and likewise from the Mouthe to Guyhurne and so to Hobbs house, weh is much overgrowne with weeds.—15 Jac. I., decree of C. of S. The branch of the river of Neane called New Leame als Moretons Leam shall be dyked cleaned fermed and scoured to the antient breadth and old bottom by those who of right ought to do the same, viz., from Guyhirn Cross to Midfentree by the Hundred of Wisbech for their common in the High Penn: from thence to Muskdike by the men of Whittlesey and from the Muskdike into Stand-ground Staff by the heirs or assigns of Sir Anthony Mildmay.



And juries were everlastingly making presentments of defaults in the cleansing of the common drains. Here are extracts from a presentment of the Inquisition assembled at Ely, 6 April, 1563.

## WHITTLESEY.

We find y<sup>t</sup> the wat<sup>r</sup> courses ther are mayntayned and kept according to the ord<sup>r</sup> made at the Quene's grace's court and leet in ye same Town the w<sup>ch</sup> ordre is y<sup>t</sup> the stremes be in widnes xxi foot and ev<sup>ry</sup> meere be xx foote in widnes at the least.

Itm we fynd y<sup>t</sup> Newdiche is not sufficientlie kept from Estre lake end into the end of Bishopsfendiche.

Itm we fynd y<sup>t</sup> south lake is not sufficientlie haffyd roked and mayntayned.

Also we fynd that Eldernall Calscye is decayed and broken down with the wat<sup>r</sup> by the meanes whereof the wat<sup>r</sup> is tourned from his right course to the hyndrance of the countrie.

Also we fynd y<sup>t</sup> Charles Carter doth bynd a stampe ageanst Lyttney holt to the hyndrance of the water.

## HADENHAM.

Itm we present a lood called Hadenham Leme wch extend<sup>d</sup> from Marg-gowes to Wilb<sup>r</sup>ton lane wch is comon and p<sup>t</sup>eyneth to y<sup>e</sup> comon's of Hadenham.

Itm we present a bancke called Stancks bancke made by the Inhabitance of Willingham and it beginneth at the second flood gate next to y<sup>e</sup> Delfes and cometh directlie ov<sup>r</sup> a c<sup>t</sup>en drayne called Bedalls loode and extendeth from both the meres unto Cottenham bridge, the said bancke cometh down north toward Alldreth High bridge directlie w<sup>th</sup>out a flood-gate to ye great lett of the watercourse and annoyaunce of the said calscye we therfor pray the spedie redresse therof.

Itm we present a loode pteynng to Thomas Barnerd wch extends from the Kings streme to Meergooes.

Itm we present a dicke on the south side of Ereth Calscye and extendith to Mills Gull wch is c<sup>o</sup>mn and belongeth to the inhabitants and comrs of Hadenham.

To augment the volume of water flowing through the New Leam, the Bishop had stopped up Clowes Cross sluice through which the water flowing by the Old South Eau passed into the Shire Drain, thus forcing the water to flow to Guyhirn. To this obstruction the drowning of Borough Great Fen was attributed, and to deal with this Commissioners were nominated in 1577, who reported to the effect following:—

The opinion of E. Mountagu, R. Sapcote, Rob: Wingfeild,  
and Edw<sup>d</sup> Hall.

Item. Let the auncient Clowe be opened.

Item we being desirous to understand whie that auncient dreine of Clowes Crosse was stopped we fynd by the report of the countrie and other probable reasons that a buschope of Elie by request as it semed of his tennaunts of Wisbeche obtained leave to make a dreine out of the water of Neane from Peterborough to Guye hearon and so to Wisbiche wch at this daie is called the Newe Leame and so procured the stopping of

Clowes Crosse that by thes . . . and boates might passe to and from Wisbiche to Peterboroughe supposing that other dreines viz. Spalding and Wisbich dreines shold be sufficient to carie awaie the waters falling out of Neane and Welland wch now by experience is known cannot be, but hath gretelie hurte the grounde above Southe Eye bancke though at the first in some few years it was not felte.

Item by the stopping of the s<sup>d</sup> old dreine called Clowes Cross there is drowned as much ground as is three score miles about. The commons are gretelie hurte of Peterborough, Thorpe, Eye, Estefeld, Oxeney, S<sup>t</sup> James Deping, Market Deping and West Deping, Thornie and Wittlesey.

Item the manner of the contribucon how the old dreine of Clowes Crosse shold be performed it is thought good to follow the order of taxacon of Romney Marshe in Kent by rating and cesseing upon ye acre to be borne by the owners of the ground or such as have the profitt of the same.

The Commissioners annexed to their report an extract from a presentment made when the Countess of Richmond was engaged about the drainage of Deeping Fen.\*

A note of an old view taken of defaultes of Sewers from Stamford bridge and so to the sea in the Ladie the King's grandmother's time and in the duke of Richmonds time as followeth

They saie y<sup>t</sup> the said South Eye from Pryor's barre to Clowes Crosse is faultie in diking weding clensing and skowring and ought to be diked weeded clensed and skowred by thenhabitants of Tidd S<sup>t</sup> Marie of the northe and of the Abbot and Convent of Thornie of the southe.

Also they saie that at Clowes Crosse there sh<sup>d</sup> be a good sure and substanciall Clowe w<sup>t</sup> two yssues of eight foote wide a peece as hath bene in times paste and shold be made kept and mainteigned by thenhabitants of the Sooke of Wysbiche and thenhabitants of Sutton and Tydd S<sup>t</sup> Marie.

Also they saie that from the Clowes aforesaid there shold be a dreyne and sewer as hath bene in times paste to Tydd Gote wch gote remeyneth three miles at this daie at a place called Charhapps now Tidd to be fortie foote wide and sixteene foote deepe and ought to be repaired and mainteigned by thenhabitants of Tidd afs<sup>d</sup>. and Sutton by reason of the decaye of the said Sewer and Clowes afs<sup>d</sup>. and other sewers comming to the same as is abovesaid ys either undoing and destroieing of a grete parte of Northamptonshire, parte of Lincolnshire, parte of Huntingdonshire and a grete part of Cambridgeshire.

Pursuant to this inquiry a commission was next year issued with directions to report "on a perfect levell to be made of the drayne called Clowes Crosse at places convenient from Clowes Cross to the sea, and how the charge may be borne."†

At Peterborough, 9 June, 1578, a jury, among whom were Mathew Robinson of Maxey, James Cleypole of Northborough,

\* 18 Eliz., Spl. Comm. Margaret Beaufort, 1441—1509, Countess of Richmond and Derby, daughter of John, Duke of Somerset. She married in 1455, Edmond Tudor, half-brother of Henry VI. At one time she resided at Collyweston, afterwards at Woking. Her benefactions are numerous: she was foundress of S. John's College, Cambridge. The Clowe or sluice was made in 1596, and had two doors 14 feet high and 6 feet broad. The sewer was cut 40 feet wide and 5 feet deep. Its failure was owing to the unretentive spongy banks.

† Exchr. Spl. Com., 20 Eliz., 3077. The Commissioners were Thos. Cecil, Will. Fitzwilliam, Edw. Mountague, Henry Cromwell, Kts.

John Byrde of Ufford, John Higginbotham of Castor, Robert Kelfull of Whittlesey, and Thomas Ground of Eldernel, returned this verdict:—

1<sup>st</sup>. They say that there is a sufficient descent or fall between Clowes Cross and Shire Drayne for the drayning of the fennes viz. eleven foote and that the most convenient course for the conducting of the same drayne is from the place where . . . standeth through and by an old drayne called the Shire Drayne untill . . . place where the Windmill standeth and from thence upon the west syde of the dyke called Willow-dyke until a place there called Hunnocks and from thence to cutt through the land of the Queen's Ma<sup>tie</sup> being parcel of Hunnocks and the land of Henry Adam esquire in the fenn of Tydd St. Maryes in the coy. of Lincoln unto the Ea between both shires of Lincoln and Cambridge at Graynes Hall and so to follow the course of the old drayne unto the gott called Shire gott.

Decrees followed, but very little was done, and what was done must have been ineffectual till the silt from the outfall was cleared away. The "poore men of Whittlesey her Ma<sup>ties</sup> tennants there humbly complaining of the utter undoing of at least fower hundreth households by the huge and unkinde overflowings of waters."

This petition, and others from the distressed inhabitants of the Isle beseeching the Commissioners to look upon the extremity of their misery, moved them, and they issued their proclamation for a General Session of Sewers to be holden at Peterborough.

Insula Eliens<sup>s</sup> in Comtu Cant.

Elizabeth by ye grace of God of Englande ffrance and Ireland Queene defendresse of ye ffayth To Thomas Heaton esqr. bayliffe of o<sup>r</sup> saide Isle of Ely Greetinge We commande yow y<sup>t</sup> yow lett not for any lyb<sup>t</sup>ye w<sup>th</sup>in yo<sup>r</sup> saide Baylywick but y<sup>t</sup> yow enter into ye same and y<sup>t</sup> yow cause p<sup>r</sup>oclamacon to be made in and throughe ye same y<sup>t</sup> all manner of persons wch have any thinge to doe at the gen<sup>r</sup>al Session of Sewers to be holden for y<sup>e</sup> sev<sup>r</sup>all Countyes of Northton, Lincoln, Huntingdon, and Cambridge w<sup>th</sup> the Isle of Ely or at the general Session of Swannymote in ye Count. of Northton Hunting<sup>d</sup> and Camb.\* may geve their attendance at Peterborowe in o<sup>r</sup> Count. of Northton on Saturdaye ye eighteenth day of July next by eight of ye clocke of ye same daye in ye forenoone And y<sup>t</sup> yow geve intymacon hereof to all and singular Comysoners of Sewers and Swannymote and to all maysters and owners of swanns y<sup>t</sup> they maye be then and theare present y<sup>t</sup> they shall thinke y<sup>t</sup> expedient. And soe y<sup>t</sup> yow or yo<sup>r</sup> suffycyent depute be then and theare p<sup>r</sup>sent to certyfye yo<sup>r</sup>

\* 22 Edw. IV., c. 6, recites that persons of little reputation by using swan-marks have stolen cygnets in the fens and marshes, and provides that persons not worth £5 a year in land shall not keep swans. In 1463, a Commission was issued touching the poaching of swans and cygnets and taking eggs in the marsh of Wittelysmere. The Swan-rolls indicate that the King's swans were doubly marked with two nicks. In lapse of time this practice being misunderstood led to the sign of the "Swan with two necks." In *Archæologia*, vol. 16, is an ordinance relating to swans on the Witham and the roll of swan marks.

doings in this behalf and to doe further y<sup>t</sup> wch to yo<sup>r</sup> office doth appteyne haveing also then and theare this o<sup>r</sup> precept flayll yow not hereof as you will answeare ye contrary at yo<sup>r</sup> peryll. Geven at Walmsford under o<sup>r</sup> seall of offyce and testymonye of Sr. Anthonye Mildmaye Knight, Robert Wingfield, Henry Hall, Thomas Lamberde, Edmund Mountstevhen and Mathewe Robinson esq<sup>rs</sup> Comysysoners of Sewers amongst others assigned ye eleventh daye of June in the three and fortieth yeare of o<sup>r</sup> raigne.

The inability of the country to restore the Nene outfall to its old width and bottom obliged the inhabitants to turn their attention to Clowes Cross and Shire Drain. The bottom of Wisbech Great River\* was raised to a higher level than that of the Nene at Guyhirn, or Elme Leam on the other side of Waldersby. Thomas Nurrice, of Peterborough, fisher, aged 60, made this clear. He deposed "that the stream or Eye called Wisbech Eye is deeper between Gyhirn and Wisbech then from Wisbech to the sea and he knoweth the same to be true for that when travaling upon the water with his kele he maye at all times passe between Gyhirn and Wisbech but between Wisbech and the sea he is stayed for lack of deepness of water."

The case was just as bad with Wisbech Little River; the water had to be carried away by March and the Old Nene to the Ouse, so as to flow to Lynn Haven.† It was with reference to flooding of this side of Wisbech that the Commissioners made, in 1600, the following order:—

At a sess<sup>ns</sup> of Sw<sup>rs</sup> hold' at Downham Sep<sup>t</sup> 1600 a<sup>o</sup> r.r E. 42<sup>d</sup> befor r<sup>t</sup>. rev<sup>d</sup> F. in God Martyn lo. bp of Ely John Daye d<sup>r</sup> of com llawes Marke Styward Ric Cox Alexd<sup>r</sup> Balam Will Sturmyne esq<sup>r</sup> and Nicholas Maxey gent.

Wheras by a p<sup>r</sup>sentm<sup>t</sup> made by a jury of the hundred of Wisbeach viz. Tho. Pearson, Will Stotteryne and ors del<sup>d</sup>. 8<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1600 and also by the view of comm<sup>rs</sup> it appeareth unto us y<sup>t</sup> ye little river of Wisbeach als Elme Eae or what other name soever the same be called leading from the sluice of Wisbeach falling into the great river unto the river of March called the river of Nyne is much in decay and hath need presently to be diked haffed skored and clenسد We the above named Coss<sup>rs</sup> have ordered decreed and for a lawe sett downe and established y<sup>t</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> little river from the sluice above menconed shalbe diked haffed skored and clenسد in manner and forme following y<sup>t</sup> is to saie unto ye towne bridge of Elme to ye breadth of xxiv foote at the least and to ye depth of vi foote or to ye

\* The Nene below Wisbech was called Wisbech Great River; and Elme Leam, Wisbech Little River.

† About this time Hayward's Map of the Great Level was made. "The true content or number of acres in the Fens described in the General Plat, lying without the Fen dikes, as they were delivered by William Hayward gent. surveyor upon his oath at Wisbech the 13 July 1605. Total 307,242." 1622. July 22. Rl. Warrant to pay W. Hayward 100li for surveying the fens.

old bottom and from the towne bridge to Marish Dame to the bredth of xxx foote at the least and to the depth of vi foote or to the old bottom and all this to be done before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Dec<sup>r</sup> next ensuing and from Marish dame unto the river of March or Nene to the bredth of xx foote and this to be haffed skoured didelled and clensed and so to be finished and perfected before the Annunciacion of o<sup>r</sup> Ladie next ensueinge viz from the s<sup>d</sup> Sluce to Mumpinsons to be done by ye inhabitants and landholders of Wisbeach and from Mumpinsons unto Spittle Crosse by the s<sup>d</sup> inhabit. and landh<sup>rs</sup> of Wisb. with the assistance of the whole hundred y<sup>t</sup> is to saie that Wisb. shall beare one halfe of the charges and the rest of the hundred the other halfe. And from Spittle Crosse to the ffludgates by the townshipp of Elme, from the ffludgates unto Elme town bridge by the Bp of Ely or his tenaunt for Branchmere, from the Towne bridge unto ffriday Bridge by the Q<sup>ns</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> for the monasterie of Crowland and from ffriday bridge a little beyond Middle bridge where there was a stampe by Alexander Balam esq<sup>r</sup>., from the stampe or mere to the old Eae's end and by M<sup>r</sup> Hunt Lord of Coldham from the old Eae's end unto the beginning of Branchmere by ye towne of Elme, from the place aforesaid unto the Common by the Lo. Bp of Ely and his tenant for Branchmere againe from the Lo. Bp of Ely unto a certaine dike wch parteth the common of Elme and of Livermere unto a certaine division wch parteth Livermere and the common againe by the owners of Livermere,\* from the division aforesaid unto the ryver of Nyne als March ryver by the hundred of Wisbech.

Add. Ch. 33,082.

In all directions presentments flowed in anent the outrageous winter waters. All the world failed to observe the custom of the fen. In 1599, at Ely, the jurors for the whole body of the Isle presented that

“The water leading from Thorney Crosse to Thorney Mill at Wittlesey is not ditched and skowred according to the law of sewers, the same to be done by the Lo. Burghley and Mr. Carrol, and from Thorney goate to Powteshead stream in defalte and to be done by Mr. Carroll, we crave there may be law for the performance of the same.

“The draines and sewers belonging to the Deane and Chapter of Peterborough from Bull dike to Clea lake are not roded fermed and skowred, we crave there may be law for the pformance of the same.

“The Cosenary† water of Wittlesey is not roded haffed and ditched according to the law of sewers in that case provided.”

\* See Art. 557, *F. N. & Q.*, Vol. 3, to locate this mere.

† The manor called Coquinary formerly belonged to Thorney Abbey; derives its name, “quia pertinet coquina,” the profits being devoted to sustain the monk's kitchen. At Burgh, in 1195, Abbot Andreas gave the manors of Alwalton and Fletton to the monk's kitchen for an augmentation of their commons. The lord of the Coquinary's water extended from Middle-home hard at Bull-dike end unto Thorney Cross by the side of Catswater. He was again presented at Huntingdon in 1617. In 1638, there is a decree on a Chancery suit between the lords of Whittlesey S. Mary and S. Andrew and the lo. of the Coqy. for dividing the waste and settling the intercommonge of cattle, horn by horn.

About this time Richard Atkins, a surveyor well versed in the wants of the fenland, made the following report relating to Clowes Cross drain and the restoration of the Shire drain :

A.D. 1606.

It is likewise to be remembered that Wisbech river is raised with silt in the bottom 6 foote higher than it was heretofore, for of old the infield water of Guy-Hurne would fall out into Wisbich River at Romers Marsh 5 foote and now the river water would fall into the infields of Guy-Hurne 5 foote. Yf the river be so raised with silt in the bottom no marvel though the waters doe forsake the channell to follow Linn Haven wch is as much mended as the other is decayed And yf the high country waters must runne 6 foote higher then they were wont to doe before they can come to the sea by Wisbich then must the Upp-fenn of necessitie be drowned and then is it high time to looke for another drayne or the amendment of Wisbich river. And can there be found any other drayne so fitt as this of Clowes Cross wch falleth into the decayed channel of Wisbich helping to repell the silt which hath bene the cause of the spoyle of all especially sithence that drayne called Clowes Crosse is no new thing but such an one as hath runn of old and by lawe should runne at this daye. Dom. Jac. I., v. 18. 103.

The Shire drain had ceased to be an effectual outlet for the inland water, yet the Commissioners continued to levy the tax for its maintenance. This caused a general revolt. The Lords of the Council informed the Commissioners "that divers petitions have of late been exhibited unto us as well by the inhabitants of Wisbech, Leverington and other towns in the Isle of Ely as by the inhabitants of Whaplode, Holbech and Sutton in the partes of Holland complaining of a late tax layd upon them by virtue of a lawe of Sewers made the 38 yeare of the late Queen concerning a drayne called Clouse Crosse upon pretence of the benefit and good of the suppliants but as they inform to their great losse and inconvenience."\*

The Commissioners regarded the opening of Shire Drain as a temporary relief to Borough Great Fen while the outfall works formerly decreed to be done in the Welland and Nene were in progress. The New River from Wisbech to the Deeps was not cut until 1631, when the Earl of Bedford and his participants and adventurers came on the scene. At a General Session of Sewers, holden at Peterborough, Aug. 20, 1618,

\* 13 December, 1616.

the Commissioners made this decree as to Clowes Crosse and the Shire Drain :—\*

first that the Great River of Wisbech being the natural and ancient outfall of the waters from Stanground to the sea as a thing of highest consequence to effect and perfect the premises shalbe diked clensted fermed and perfected to the ancient depth and bredth of ffortie foote.

And the decree proceeds to recite reasons for providing some speedy remedy.

Whereas y<sup>t</sup> is to be feared that whilst the rivers of Neene and Welland with their branches are in diking and amending the waters of the said rivers will much prejudice the adjacent countries by dams and stoppes therein of necessitie to be made for that time unlesse good provision be made for conveyhance of those waters unto the sea whilst the said works are in doing. And that it is likewise to be doubted that the outfall at Wysbech will not be sufficient to take and convey away the huge overflowing and outragious wynter waters but that the same will necessarilie remaine and stay verie long upon the face of those ffens and marishes before they can be vented to the unspeakable losse and detriment of those parts unless it be prevented.

Therefore y<sup>e</sup> Commiss<sup>rs</sup> entending to provide some such necessarie remedie for both these so greate inconveniences as may be effected with least charge and yet may be the certeinest and best to work the desired effecte doe enact ordeine and decree that the Shire dreine needeing only some reysing and strengthening of the bankes and bottoming of the dreine in some places shall be well and sufficiently diked out, scoured, bottomed and clensted to the bredth and depth sett downe in former decrees and that the banks thereof shall be well and sufficiently repaired, strengthened, and perfected and that then the said Clough shalbe permitted to runn whilst the said rivers of Wysbech and Welland be in dikeinge soe that it run within the banks and at a gage. And that the ffen Clough at the head of the said dreine being nowe decayed shalbe taken upp and a new clough shalbe framed with 3 strong and substantial dores each of them conteneing 4 foot in bredth and be placed in place where the said old Clough now standeth in such wise that the lowest soales of the said dores be 3 foot at the least above the levell of the bottom of Southea and that as well the said Clough as the Shire dreine with the gates shalbe sufficientlie made and perfected before 1<sup>st</sup> day of Aprill next at the charges of all those townes villages hamletts and persons, bodies politique and corporate whose waters may fall and dreine by the same or whose grounds lie above the bankes of Southea and Highfendike that may take benefit thereby And that after the said Clough so finished and perfected the dores thereof shall not be opened neither the said dreine permitted in anie wise to runn untill the said banks of the said dreine and the Goate be formed by the viewe of these Commiss<sup>rs</sup> hereafter named to be well settled and soe sufficientlie perfected and the dreine beneath the Shire goate be soe diverted over some parte of Tydd and Sutton marsh that by running at a gage and within it may not prejudice the countries of Marshland, Holland, the isle of Ely or anie part of anie of them.†

\* Coram Bp. of Pet. ; Francis Lord Russell ; Sir Oliver Cromwell ; Sir Robt. Bevill ; Sir John Cutts ; Sir Humfrey Orme ; Henry Cæsar, dean of Ely ; Leonard Bawtrye, S.L., and others.

† At Wisb. 26 May 1619. It is ordered y<sup>t</sup> Mr Adam Cleypole shall send or bring to ye next Session ye owld checqr Commission being in his custody for ye apporcioning of ye chardges of ye county for and towards Clowes Crosse and ye Shyre dreyne wch he shewed at Peterburgh at a session there holden 14 Oct. 1618 subpena xli according to former lres to him directed.

This decree bears witness to the honest endeavours of the Commissioners, but they found "such opposition and varietie of opinions amongst themselves as that their resolucons and judgments are thereby distracted and their endeavors frustrated." Therefore the Lords of the Council resolved that one of the clerks of the Council (to which purpose Sir Clement Edmondcs, Kt., was named) "shall repayre to the toune of Huntingdon the 12<sup>th</sup> of August next ensuing to be present at the meeting of the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers of those partes to the ende that having as an indifferent partie fully informed himself upon view of all the outfalls he may accommodate the differences and make report thereof to the Board so that one constant and resolute course may be taken whereunto wee assure ourselves every man will submit his own private conceit and thereby rest satisfied."

That result was devoutly to be hoped.

**907.—Standish Family of Peterborough (438, 539).—**In a note on the "Standish Family of Peterborough" (Vol. ii., p. 315), it is stated that David Standish, M.A., Minor Canon, Head Master of King's School, Rector of Woodston, co. Hunts., 1702–20, died in that year, aged 54; that an inscription formerly existed in the Cathedral, recording these facts; but that the date of his death, as given in copies of the destroyed Monumental inscription, must be wrong, as a Chapter Order was passed to pay him his salary as Schoolmaster to Lady Day, 1722.

In a further note by the same writer (Vol. iii., p. 110), an extract is given from the Woodston Register, which gives the date of his death as Oct. 22, 1720, and the writer of this note, referring to his remark in the note quoted above, that there is a discrepancy between the date of his death and the Chapter Order continuing his salary as Master of the School till 1722, states that this extract leaves no doubt as to the date of his death (*i.e.* it must have been 1720).



Having lately, for another purpose, made a careful study of the Cathedral records of that date, I think I can explain the supposed discrepancy. The Rev. David Standish was promoted from being Usher of the School to be Master in 1707. Apparently he held the post till his death in 1720, as there is no record of his having either resigned or been removed, one or other of which facts is recorded in every other case without exception. He appears to have tried the patience of the Chapter sadly by his incompetence and slackness as Master and Minor Canon. He is constantly being urged to be more zealous in his labours, and during his Mastership we find the Chapter complaining of two "great and serious disorders" in the Grammar School; the first, that the King's Scholars, after their four years' nomination had expired, used to go to a fresh Prebendary, with the Head Master's knowledge, and get another nomination from him; and the second (with a sudden drop from the sublime to the ridiculous), that the boys broke too many windows! He is ordered to check both these "disorders." In 1714 he was summoned before the Dean and Chapter and severely admonished, being informed that unless he performs his duties as Master and Minor Canon properly, he will be ejected from both offices. He was again admonished in 1715, but there are no further remarks about him till a Chapter, held Oct. 26, 1720, in which the following resolution was passed:—

(1.) "Agreed at the same time *nem. con.* that Mr. David Standish be appointed to officiate as Master of our Grammar School until our next Audit."

This is immediately followed by

(2.) "Agreed that Mr. Theophilus Hill be chosen into the place of a Minon Canon now vacant *by the death of Mr. David Standish.*"

Now, we know from the Woodston register, that David Standish died Oct. 22, 1720, so that obviously he is the man referred to in the second resolution quoted, and equally obviously he was succeeded as Master by another David Standish. I think

this latter was probably the son of the former, and that he is the David Standish referred to in the note in Vol. ii., of S. John's Coll., Camb., who took his degree in 1721. The fact that the Chapter only appointed him at first "to officiate till the next Audit" points to his having been a young man,\* and this idea is confirmed by a resolution passed June 18th, 1721, probably just after he had taken his degree. "That Mr. David Standish be appointed Master of our Grammar School for the year next ensuing by way of probation and tryall of his fitness for that Office." In 1722 his appointment was confirmed and he was also made Minor Canon. But in 1725, the Chapter resolved that "Whereas Mr. David Standish is not able as he is obliged by the Statutes of the Church and by his Oath to attend his Duty personally as Master of the King's School and Minor Canon of the Church, we do hereby declare both his sayd places to be vacant &c., &c." He probably then went to South Carolina (vide loc. cit. Vol. ii.). Thus the supposed discrepancy between the date of death and the payment of salary disappears. It really was in this case "not David Standish but another man of the same name."

There is another David Standish appointed "Sub-receiver, Epistoler, and Master of the Quiristers in the Room of his father Francis" in 1698. His name disappears from the list of Cathedral officials in 1717. I feel sure that he is not to be identified with either of the above.

Thus we have David Standish, Master of the Grammar School 1707-1720, *succeeded by* David Standish, Master 1720-1725.

King's School, Peterborough.

E. J. BIDWELL.

**908.—Beating the Bounds at Ramsey.**—After an interval of about sixty years, according to old inhabitants, or longer as some think, (for the last recorded perambulation was in 1824,) the ancient custom of Beating the Bounds has been revived at Ramsey. From a very full account in *The*

\* He was probably not old enough to be Ordained, as he did not become Minor Canon till 1722.

*Peterborough Advertiser* of 18 May, 1901, we learn that the party was armed with the correct willow wands, which were ornamented with gay ribbons, and that a formal whipping of boys took place at the various limits which it was important to remember. Marks were made upon sundry posts at the limits of the parish. The ceremony took place on the Tuesday in Rogation week; and the proceedings were opened, as in the ancient processions, with prayers by the Vicar of the parish. At one place particular care was required, for at Morley's Farm it was found that the farm and homestead were in no less than four different parishes, Ramsey, Warboys, Doddington, and Benwick. "Mr. Sansom, the steward, informed the beaters that his family lived in one parish during the day and slept in another parish at night!" Not far from the farm-house the party inspected what is left of S. Benet's Cross. Ramsey Abbey church was dedicated to SS. Mary and Benedict. Its original position, in the middle of an arable field, was thought inconvenient, and it had been moved to the hedge side. Only the shaft remains; and it certainly would be well if it could be replaced where it stood before. Remains of an inscription were visible, but nothing that any one could read, beyond a modern date, no doubt placed there upon some occasion of marking the parish boundaries.

The paper which we have laid under contribution for the above particulars gives an entry in the parish books for 1794. This we quote at full.

Be it remembered that on the Thirtieth Day of October, A.D., One Thousand Seven Hundred & Ninety Four, we, the minister, churchwardens, and inhabitants of this parish of Ramsey, in the county of Huntingdon, whose names are hereumote\* subscribed, do make the procession and perambulate part of the bounds of the said parish adjoining to Bury and Wistow and Warboys, in the county of Huntingdon, and the parish of Doddington and Hamlet of Benwick, in the Isle of Ely and County of Cambridge. First, we assembled together on the High Bridge, and proceeded down the George Inn Yard, and made a X on the mantle tree of a tenement belonging to John Beard; and from thence on the west side of Northy Brook to Northy Plash; and from thence along the drove to the south side of the Division Drain which parts Ramsey from Bury, to that part of the drove opposite the corner of the late Batson's Bury Fenn Lott,

\* *Sic.* Qy. hereuntoe?

where we made a X and chanted the first verse of the Hundredth Psalm; then cross'd the said drain into a piece of land of William Fellowes, Esq., called Cow Close, and proceeded close to the north side of the said drain till we came to the north end of the drain which parts Bury Fenn and Wistow Fenn, where we made a X in Pool's Close, and chanted part of the Hundredth Psalm; from thence across Ash Drain on the north side of the Division Dyke which parts Wistow Fenn and Ramsey Fenn, along the lands of Barnabas Brighty and late — Cole, Esq., till we came to Puddock Drove, where we made a X in the middle of the said drove and chanted the first verse of the Second Psalm; and from thence along the said drove till we come to the farm of formerly Sir Thomas Mills and George Foyle, Esq., late Fleming, Esq., and now of John Fryer, called Pulver Fenn, and across the said farm to a certain place or stone called St. Bennet's Cross, where we chanted part of the Hundredth Psalm; and from thence to the house of the said John Fryer, taking in part of the said house by going over the chimney and through a new barn back to Puddock Drove, again taking in fifty acres of the said farm, here we make a X in Puddock Drove at the east end of the Division Dyke, which parts the lands of William Fellowes, Esq., called Dawson's Farm, and lands of Francis Ibberson, in the Hamlet of Benwick and Parish of Doddington aforesaid, and along the south side of the said Forty Feet River or Vermuyden's Drain and proceeded across the said river to the Water Engine, standing upon a piece of ground belonging to William Fellowes, Esq., called Betty's Nose, and a farm of the said Francis Ibberson, and made a X on the north-west side of the said engine, close to the water way, and proceeded across the farm of the said Francis Ibberson till we came to the end of the drove near the place where Benwick Turf Fenn gate formerly stood, thereby taking in sixty-three acres of the farm of the said Francis Ibberson, where we made a X, chanted part of the Hundredth Psalm, and finished this day's procession and perambulation.

HENRY MAWDESLEY, Minister.

	Thomas Ridlington, } William Hard, } Church-wardens.	
Samuel Jenkins	George Wilkinson	Robert Smith
Barnabas Brighty	Edwd. Banes	James Darlow
Abrm. Staffurth	Jno. Bedford	Robert Beard
James Belshaw	Willm. Throssell	Henry Brown
Thos. Belshaw	Thomas Rose	Benj. Prior
Richd. Ablitt	Joseph Fullilove	Benj. Prior, Jun.
John Hales	Charles Montacue	Robert Thompson,
James Hales	Ridlington	Jun.
John Greenwood	Henry Ibberson	Wm. Champion
John Dockerill, Jun.	William Brown	John Hicks
John Fitzjohn	John Serjeant	George Belshaw
Wm. Tuck	John Leach, Jun.	Mattw. Roberts
Thomas Hard		

Instances of houses in two parishes are not common in country places; but in towns they probably occur often, and certainly in London they are numerous. The Editor, nearly fifty years ago, in his youth, once accompanied the parish authorities of S. Andrew's, Holborn, in a bound-beating expedition. He remembers that the large iron gates at the end of Ely Place were shut, and Beadles in imposing uniforms

were stationed behind them, to defy entrance, and to maintain the extra-parochial privileges of the place. The clergy wore gowns. Some eight or ten boys from the charity schools, in their old-world costume, bore the willow wands, each six or seven feet long; and the bounds were beaten with the rods, not the boys. More than once some of the party had to enter a house to find the boundary mark, and once, at least, they had to go down into a cellar. It was mentioned at the time that the stage of Drury Lane Theatre is in two different parishes.

**909.—Early Ely Wills (901).—**Margaret Toppesfelde of Ely: dated 8 Jan., 1454, proved 20 Aug., 1455. Fo. 38.

See ante, Vol. IV., p. 330.

Alice wife of Thomas Macrowe of Ely: dated 12 Mar., 1454, proved 5 Apr., 1454. Fo. 41.

To high altar of Holy Trinity 8d. To William my son 6s. 8d. To Agnes my daughter my best gown and best tunic. To John Undyrwode a blue tunic, a green kirtle, and 2 kerchiefs. Residue to husband, exor. Witnesses, Robert Yatis, John Alleyne, Willam Benett.

Agnes Cutte relict of John Cutte y<sup>e</sup> Wryle: dated 24 Mar., 1455, proved 29 Apr., 1455. Fo. 41.

To high altar of Holy Trinity 3s. 4d. To parish priest 6d. To parish clerk 3d. To priest to celebrate for me, my late husband, my parents, and benefactors, for a year. To John my son 2 coverlets, one pair towels, 2 silver spoons, one silver girdle, a brass pot holding a gallon, a pan holding 3 gallons, a chair, 2 platters, 2 saucers, one piece of otter fur (*furrurum de otyr*). To Agnes my daughter a red coverlet, a pair of sheets, a great copper, 2 silver spoons, one pair of rosaries of jet, \* & one little cupboard (*armoriolum*). To Anelyn my maid a coverlet of grey and blue colour, a pair of sheets, and one "kanwase." To Cecilia Grymson one violet gown. Residue to John Seman, chaplain, and Andrew Sympoll, exors., to dispose, &c. Witnesses, William Cutte, John Cutt, John Hyvere, &c.

Roger Pedder of Ely: dated 23 May, 1455, proved 12 July, 1455. Fo. 42.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Mary. To high altar, 12d. To repairs 12d. To John Chapman, 6d. To Agnes my wife all household stuff. To Thomas my son all fruit coming from one acre of barley *si fieri poterit*. To Adam my brother a cloak (*epitogium*) with a hood. Residue to Agnes my wife and Henry my son to dispose &c. Witnesses, Richard Palfreman, William Custanns, Thomas Glover, &c.

Administration of effects of wife of John Emmett of Ely. Fo. 43.

\* See vol. iv., p. 332, note (5).

William Deynes of Ely: dated 4 Mar., 1456, proved 30 Apr., 1457. Fo. 46.

To be buried in churchyard of Holy Trinity. To high altar of Wychford 20d. To gild of S. John in Sutton 3s. 4d. To Carmelite friars in Cambridge 6s. 8d. To each house of the other three orders of friars at Cambridge, viz., Preaching friars, the Grey friars, and the Augustines, to celebrate for my soul immediately after my death 3s. 4d. To Agnes Prat daughter of John Prat 2 bushels of corn. To Margaret Fordham my god-daughter 2 bushels of barley, To Agnes my wife 2 cows with 2 calves (*vitulis sugentibus*), 3 sheep, & household stuff. To Agnes my daughter one calf and one sheep. Residue to wife Agnes, exor. Witnesses, John Sampson and John Hakum.

Richard Brown, Chaplain of the Chantry on the Green: dated 16 July 1456, proved 13 May, 1457. Fo. 46.

See ante, Vol. II., p. 97.

Agnes Tyler wife of Edmund Tyler of Ely: dated 20 Aug., 1457, proved 27 Oct., 1457. Fo. 49.

To high altar of S. Mary's church 12d. To fabric 6d. To John Chapman, chaplain, 12d. To John Day of Downham my red hood. To Margaret Long one ewe. To Agnes her daughter a lamb. Clothing to be distributed between my daughters at discretion of my husband. Residue to husband, exor. Witnesses, John Chapman, chaplain, Nicholas Tiler, &c.

Administration of goods of Margaret late wife and relict of Walter Chaundler of Ely, granted to Walter her husband, 11 Nov., 1457.

Administration of goods of Agnes wife of Richard Cook of Ely, intestate, granted to said husband. 11 Nov., 1457.

Administration of goods of Margaret wife of Thomas Palmer of Ely intestate, granted to said husband, 2 Dec., 1457.

Agnes Cutt of Ely, widow, dated 1 Dec., 1457, proved 20 Mar., 1457.

To be buried in tomb of her husband. To high altar (not named) 3s. 4d. To Dom. Thomas Wygenale, chaplain, 2s. To Dom. William Palfrayman, chaplain, 40d. To Dom. William Mayoo, monk, 3s. 4d. To Thomas Cutt sen. a basin and ewer (?), a mazer, a brass pot holding 3 gallons a pair of amber rosaries,\* a feather bed, a coverlet of green tiffany, and a pair of sheets. To John Cut a bowl of silver, a folding table, an iron candlestick, three silver (spoons?), 1 brass pot of 2 gallons, a pair of sheets, 2 blankets, and a green coverlet. To Thomas Cut jun. a silver cup, a chafing, 3 silver spoons, and another chafing with 3 feet, a posnet, and a pair of sheets. To Agnes Brewood my daughter all my brewing vessels (*vasa pandoxabilia*), one vat containing 4 conil,† and another great vat. To Alice Bullok one cotton kerchief, & one pair of jet rosaries. Also to Agnes Brewood my best girdle. To John Brewood 5 silver spoons, my best jar, one painted table partly wrought with

\* See vol. iv., p. 332, note (5).

† Possibly for *congios*. A *congios* held 6 pints.

amber (*di garneys de electr*), my best basin, a pair of sheets, &c. (torn). To Alice Culpny my best gown, a coverlet, a pair of sheets, and a great mazer. To Cecil Plumb my second gown. To Agnes, daughter of Andrew Sempole, a ewe or a lamb. To Agnes Bewpas my black gown with a black tunic. To Matilda Downham a fur tunic. Residue to Agnes Brewood my daughter, exors., to dispose &c. Witnesses, Thomas Wigenall, chaplain, William Brewod, &c.

Margaret Farnham of Ely: dated 16 May, 1458, proved 3 June, 1458. Fo. 56.

To be buried in church of S. Mary. To high altar 3s. 4d. To fabric 20s. To parish church of Somersham 26s. 8d. To chapel of Pedley 20s. To church of Wychford 6s. 8d. To Littleport 3s. 8d. To a fit priest to celebrate in same church for a year 8 marks. To John Chapman, chaplain, 2s. To the sepulchre (*sepulchro dominico*) of said church two sheets of the better sort. To Alice Grytton my sister 20s., my black coat of russet with fur, 2 smocks, my kirtle, tunic, and holiday petticoat, and my silk girdle embroidered with silver. To husband of same Alice a new shirt. To church of Colne 3s. 4d. To my daughter Emot wife of Nicholas Chaundler, my best silk girdle embroidered, and a blue cloak. To wife of John Newton another blue silk girdle and a blue cloak. Residue to exors., Nicholas Chaundler, & Dom. John Walden, chaplain, the latter to be supervisor, and to have for his pains 6s. 8d. Witnesses, John Chapman, chaplain, John Eaton, &c.

Administration of goods of Simon Davy of Ely, jun., intestate, granted to Joan his wife, 3 July, 1458. Fo. 57.

Administration of Goods of John Wellys of Ely, intestate, granted to William Mayne of Ely, 27 July, 1451. Fo. 58.

Administration of goods of Alice wife of William Hawman of Ely, intestate, granted to her husband, 3 Aug., 1458. Ib.

Alice Messenger of Ely: dated 10 Aug., 1457, proved 5 Sep., 1458. Ib.

To be buried in the churchyard of the chapel of the Holy Trinity. To the shrine of S. Etheldreda a silver ring with a sapphire. To Dom. John my son my tin candlestick with one nozzle. To each godson a sheep. To Agnes my daughter my best mantle (*togam penulatam*) cum *croppys*. To Elene my maidservant my second best, together with a basin, ewer, brass jar holding 2 gallons, a brass pan holding 2 gallons, a coverlet, 2 blankets, 2 sheets, 2 scuttles of copper (*electro?*), 2 dishes, 2 spice boxes, 2 candlesticks and a great copper. To Margaret Yon my blue gown marked with grey. To John son of William Cut my 2 acres of land lying in different parts of Ely fields, coming to me from gift of my mother, and to his heirs. To Richard Messenger my husband all my tenements and lands in the village and fields of Stuntney for life, then to be sold by my exors. or their exors. and distributed in alms or other pious works for health of souls of Nicholas Wace, his wife Agnes, William Bach, my own, and all my benefactors. To Dom. John my son and Agnes my daughter in common my tenement in which I dwell, with my tenement in Newenham with its appurtenances. John to find a priest to celebrate for soul of myself and my benefactors in the convent of Ely for 2 years; and John Leyyr' the husband of my daughter to find a secular priest to celebrate in the chapel of Holy Trinity

for 2 years. To John Leyyr' all my brewing vessels and my best mill with other vessels in the hall; as agreed (*inter nos recitatis*), on condition of paying to my exors. 8 marks in full within 30 days for my burial. If conditions not fulfilled the aforesaid tenements to be sold and proceeds distributed according to the effect of the will of Nicholas Wace; and also the brewing vessels, mill, and utensils to be sold and proceeds expended for health of my soul. To Alice Somyrsham one *fameolum* of lawn and one of thread. To Dom. Thomas Wyllynhale, Dom. John Seman, Dom. William Palfreman, Dom. Thomas Muncy, my pair of rosaries (*precurarum*)\* to be divided equally, viz. to each 10 rosaries† with gaudyys, as far as they will extend. To Cecilia my servant one . . . and one little table (? *mensulam*). To Alice Sabyne my servant a coverlet, 2 blankets, and 2 sheets. To Margaret Yon a violet cloak. To Cecilia my servant my robe (?) with a pair *cappinariarum*. To Agnes my daughter a gold ring with a diamond. My husband Richard Messenger to have half of all my goods moveable and (not) bequeathed. Residue to him and Dom. John Downham jun., exors., to dispose &c. To my husband for his labour 6s. 8d., and the same to John Downham, jun. To Dom. John Wygenhale a round basin. Witnesses, Thomas Wygenale, Andrew Sempole, Richard Cook, &c.

Richard Palfryman of Ely: dated 23 Ang., 1458, proved 20 Oct., 1458.

To high altar (not named) 3s. 4d. To repairs 2 quarters of barley. To parish priest 12d. To parish clerk 6d. To Isabel my servant 2 quarters of barley, a red cow with her young, 3 ewes with their lambs, one coverlet, a pair of blankets, a pair of sheets, 2 small dishes, 2 copper dishes, one candlestick of latten, and one coffer worth 18d. To Etheldreda my daughter one calf "le Balkhowed," one basin with ewer of latten, 2 small dishes, 2 dishes, and one bed, viz., a mattress of the better sort, a coverlet, pair of blankets, and pair of sheets. To Agnes my servant 3 bushels of barley. To Katherine Peeod of Ely one heifer of about a year old of blackish colour with a star on the head. To Alice my mother 2 ewes of the better sort, one quarter of malt, 4 bushels of barley, 2 of wheat, and 2 of peas. To Dom. William my brother my green tunic and best hat. To Alice Bate mother of my wife 4 bushels of malt, and one of wheat. To Helena my wife 6 quarters of malt, one of barley, 2 of wheat, half of all my other grain, half the value of my timber, 5s. *teschie*, all fallen branches (*terricedia*), and all other *feculi meo*. Also to her 2 cows, 2 calves at her choice, all household stuff not already bequeathed. Residue to exors., Dom. William my brother, Dom. John Seman, and to each of them 3s. 4d.

William Bally of Ely: dated 24 Aug., 1458, proved 2 Oct., 1458. Fo. 59.

To high altar 2 rams. To repairs . . . . . To parish priest 12d. To parish clerk 4d. To John my brother my best coat, a two-year-old heifer, and a pig of the better sort. To William my son 2 calves, and one ewe with a lamb. To Margaret my daughter one ewe, one lamb, and a brass pot containing a gallon. To Agnes my daughter one ewe, one lamb, and a brass posnet holding a gallon. To Eve my servant one sheep. To Isabel Swayn one pair of shoes and boots. To Anne But, mother of my wife, one sheet, one shoe (?) and one pair of boots. To gild of S. Anne 2½ quarters of barley. To Joan my wife 2 cows, a heifer, 12 ewes, 3 she lambs, one sow with 2 little pigs, one pig of the best, and all my grain not bequeathed,

\* The expression *par precariarum*, which occurs more than once previously in these wills, no doubt is a variation of *par precurarum*, which is the regular mediæval term for rosaries.

† This may mean groups of beads. Can any one explain *gaudyys*?



and all household stuff. Also to her all my right and estate which I have in a tenement in Catteslane with appurtenances. Residue to exors., for funeral, debts, and other works of piety. Exors., Walter Chaumbyrleyn, and wife Joan; Walter for his labour to have a heifer. Witnesses not named.

Robert Berford of Ely: dated 4 Aug., 1458, proved, 17 Nov., 1458. Fo. 62.

To be buried in churchyard of Holy Trinity. To high altar 6s. 8d. To each monk of the monastery of Ely 20d. To the sacrist to observe the service of the dead on day of my burial 20s. To each one going to the chapel and mass at my funeral 4d. To poor of Chipenham 10s. To John Berford my grandson (*nepoti*) 20s., and a black cloak with hood. To brother William Cross of the order of friars at Lynn 5s. To Richard Fynte of Bury and Agnes his wife my daughter all debts owed to me. To sepulchre light in Holy Trinity church 6s. 8d. To each order of friars at Cambridge 5s. To friars of preaching order at Lynn 5s. To each godson and goddaughter 12d. To Alice Wryght 10s. To a chaplain to celebrate &c. for 2 years, or 2 chaplains to celebrate for 1 year, in Holy Trinity church\* "xvj iiij<sup>s</sup>." To Agnes my wife £20, 50 sheep and lambs, and 3 cows. Also all jewels, bedding (*lectiemia?*), looms (*ustilmenta*), and *uccia* of my house. Also to her my capital messuage in le Heyrow in Ely for life, then to be sold for health of our souls; if she wishes to sell it in her lifetime she is to have half the value and the other half for our souls. Also to her my alder-grove in Ely with its appurtenances. Bequest to John Ikelyngton, mentions messuage lately bought of me by William Crosse. Mentions Robert son of John Ikelyngton. Exors., Dom. William Clerk, chaplain, and Nicholas Chaundler of Ely; to each 20s. Witnesses, John Galey, John Hakon, George Cryspe.


Administration of goods of Robert Gabbye of Ely, intestate, granted to wife Agnes, 16 Nov., 1458. Fo. 63.

Administration of goods of John Holden of Ely, intestate, granted to Agnes wife and relict, 13 Feb., 1458. Fo. 64.

**910.—Peterborough and Wisbech Boat.**—Is it known when carriage of passengers by water from Peterborough to Wisbech came to an end? In 1820 a boat sailed, at any rate in the summer, thrice in the week, as is set forth in the following advertisement from *The Stamford Mercury* in July of that year. In October the sailings were reduced to two a week.

PETERBOROUGH and WISBECH

OLD PASSAGE BOAT,

 WILL sail from Peterborough to Wisbech, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at Ten o'clock in the morning; and from Wisbech to Peterborough, on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays; at Nine o'clock.

Passengers and goods booked at the Office of SIMPSON and MEWBURN, owners, Bridge, Peterborough, and at the VINE, Wisbech.

H. R. S.

\* Possibly 16 marks, 4 shillings; or at the rate of £5 8s. 8d. a year.

911.—**Santoft Register** (652).—If the following paper should be the means of procuring information as to the whereabouts of this lost register, or further light as to its contents, a good purpose will be served. Of the antecedents of the congregations at Santoft and at Thorney little is known: and how it comes to pass that names known in South Lincolnshire in the sixteenth century should occur in both these French registers of a century later is a puzzle. We should welcome any communication that would have a tendency to throw light on an interesting phase of local history.

I am personally pleased to acknowledge the valuable services Mr. Peet is inclined to render in this connection. Under the auspices of the Huguenot Society of London it is hoped that both the registers will be printed; in the case of that of Thorney, if permission can be obtained, and of Santoft, if the register can be found.

Wryde, Thorney.

S. EGAR.

THE LOST REGISTER OF SANDTOFT CHAPEL,  
containing Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials of the Dutch and  
Walloon Colony, settled at Sandtoft in Hatfield Chase,  
Isle of Axholme.

An enquiry as to its fate and some suggestions  
concerning its probable destination.

The words employed by Hunter in his "South Yorkshire" (1828) in reference to the Sandtoft Register are very peculiar. He gives a list of the names of the foreign settlers "from the Register of the Chapel of Sandtoft, which was carefully kept, from 1641 to 1681, and is still in existence, or lately was so." There is something enigmatical about the above sentence. The words "*was carefully kept*" would imply that he had *seen* it, but the sentence which follows, "*and is still in existence, or lately was so,*" is capable of three interpretations. (1) That he had not seen it, very recently. (2) That he knew it was lost or destroyed, but for some reason, did not wish to publish

the fact. (3) That he had never seen it. When he refers to the "Stovin Manuscript," he is careful to say that this interesting document had been in his possession, and that it was lent to him by the Rev. Dr. Stovin, then Rector of Rossington, the grandson of the author, Geo. Stovin, Esq., of Crowle, but in his reference to the Sandtoft Register he never once states that he had actually seen the volume, and it is significant that the list of names he enumerates are practically the same as those contained in the "Stovin MS."

Assuming, however, that it was in existence in 1828, and that Hunter had examined it, the question at once arises, in whose possession was it at that time? There is, of course, no doubt whatever that Stovin had it in his possession, but that was at least fifty years anterior to 1828. Stovin died an old man in 1780, and the latter years of his life were passed at Winterton, near Brigg, some distance from his old home at Crowle, in the Isle of Axholme. At Winterton he lived in a small cottage, and the probability is that his books would remain at Hirst Priory, Crowle, in the custody of his son, who on the retirement of his father to Winterton, took up his residence at Hirst Priory. In 1757 Stovin's son was elected Clerk to the Commissioners of Sewers of Hatfield Chase, and in 1771 Town Clerk of Doncaster—this latter office he held until 1778, that is, two years before the death of his father. He removed from Hirst Priory some time before this,—the date I am not able to fix,—to Rossington, where he built a house. It would appear that he again removed, to another residence, as he died at Sprotborough Hall, Rossington, in 1789. Some members of the Stovin family continued to reside at Hirst Priory. But to return to the year 1828. Stovin's grandson was then Vicar of Rossington, and we know he had the "Stovin Manuscript" in his possession. Had he also the Sandtoft Register? or was it amongst the books at Hirst Priory? Assuming that it was at Hirst Priory, it may give some clue if the successive occupiers of this charming residence can be identified.

In 1834 Allen, in his History of Lincolnshire, says "Two miles N. of Belton is Hirst Priory the seat of C. Stovin Esq."

In the Lincolnshire Directory for 1842 I find "Cornelius Hartshorn Stovin Esq. resides at Hirst Priory." (He died there in 1847).

After this date the Listers, who intermarried with the Stovins, appear on the scene. James Lister was a Landowner in the neighbourhood, and the patron of some Church livings.

1843. Rev. George Stovin Lister was Vicar of Luddington (a village near Hirst Priory).

1858. George Spofforth Lister, son of James Lister, of Ousefleet Hall, was the occupier of Hirst Priory.

1881. Mr. Bayley, in his "Ballieuls of Flanders," says "it (the Sandtoft Register) was believed to be traced to the possession of Mr. George Spofforth Lister, a gentleman residing at Hirst Priory, but the result of an application to him was that he could not find it."

The next year Hirst Priory was let to strangers. George Spofforth Lister, Esq., who is upwards of 90 years of age, now resides at Finningley Park, Bawtry.

If Hunter examined the Register at the same time that he made extracts from Stovin's Manuscript, it is not unlikely that the same fate awaited both the volumes. Stovin's MS. mysteriously disappeared, and was only discovered so recently as 1880, in the office of a Solicitor at Doncaster, much connected with the legal affairs of the Level of Hatfield Chase. From whence it came, or how long it had been lying there, could not be explained. The Register, being in French or Dutch, it may have been discarded and turned out as lumber; it appears quite certain that Hunter returned the "Stovin MS." Did he return the Sandtoft Register? Can any reader inform me if any descendants of Hunter are now living? I should gladly welcome any suggestion as to its probable hiding place. Three places suggest themselves.

- (1) Buried amongst the books of some member of the family.
- (2) In the parish chest at Rossington, or Luddington, or one of the neighbouring churches.
- (3) In the office of one of the local Solicitors at Doncaster, Epworth, or Crowle.

There is, of course, the possibility that Hunter had the Register in his possession in 1828, that he never returned it to the person from whom he borrowed it, and that it is now in the possession of one of his descendants.

The "Stovin MS." is now (Aug. 1901) in the possession of Messrs. Loxley and Somerville, Solicitors, Doncaster, who act for the Corporation, which now represents the interest of the Participants in the Level of Hatfield Chase.

Mount Pleasant,  
Liverpool, Aug., 1901.

HENRY PEET, F.S.A.

**912.—Maxey Churchwardens' Accounts (831).**—I have found another paper of seventeenth century accounts, which I here transcribe.

1673

The receipts of Jo: Bimrose Churchwarden

	£	s	d
Imp <sup>r</sup> . Rec <sup>d</sup> : of Tho: White one of the old Churchwardens.....	0	10	7
Rec <sup>d</sup> : of Tho Bucke the other old Churchwarden .....	3	13	0
Rec <sup>d</sup> : of Widd: Newbone.....	0	11	0
My one Rent for one whole year .....	5	0	0
Receivd of widow Newbon $\frac{1}{2}$ yeares Rent.....	0	11	0
Receiv'd of W <sup>m</sup> Addison Se <sup>n</sup> : 1 whole yeares Rent .....	1	2	0
Receiv'd of John Northerne for a 3-roode .....	0	4	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11	12	1

The Disburstments

Paid to Mr Stretten for Prea(c)hing .....	0	5	0
Given to A Ministers wife with 3 Children .....	0	0	6
Given to 4 men being seamen haveing A certifcate .....	0	0	6
P <sup>d</sup> : for Bread & Wine for y <sup>e</sup> Communion at Midsummer.....	0	4	10
P <sup>d</sup> : to Will Knight what the Ringers spen for ringing one St <sup>t</sup> : Goarges day and the 29 of May .....	0	4	0
Laid out for A pare of Wheels for the Church Service .....	1	1	8
P <sup>d</sup> : to Richard Turnell for writeing the Church yarde wall Booke	0	2	6
P <sup>d</sup> : for y <sup>e</sup> Church Bible dressing up .....	1	1	0
P <sup>d</sup> for Bread & Wine for the Communion at Mich <sup>s</sup> : .....	0	4	9
P <sup>d</sup> : to Henery Tyres and his man for one days workes.....	0	1	8
P <sup>d</sup> : to Goodman Hudson for Bellropes .....	0	9	0
P <sup>d</sup> to Will: Knight what y <sup>e</sup> Ringers spent on y <sup>e</sup> 5 of Novem <sup>r</sup> : ...	0	3	6

	£	s.	d.
P <sup>d</sup> : for Cheefe Rent due at Michelmas .....	0	6	5
Given to M <sup>r</sup> Stretten when he Preached againe .....	0	3	0
Given to a Duchman which desired Releefe.....	0	0	8
P <sup>d</sup> for Cheefe Rent at Ashton due at Michlemas .....	0	1	8
Sp <sup>e</sup> n with the Booke Binder when it was agreed on that he should Dress y <sup>e</sup> Church Bible .....	0	0	6
P <sup>d</sup> to Will: Knight and his Soon for tending on the Plummer and for Beere for the workemen.....	0	8	0
P <sup>d</sup> : to the Pallitor [Apparitor] for A Booke for the fast .....	0	1	0
Given to 2 poore women haveing certificate .....	0	0	4
P <sup>d</sup> : to Jo: Haddon for worke about the Church.....	0	3	0
Given to two poore Seamen .....	0	0	2
P <sup>d</sup> . to the Plumer for worke & for Soder and Lead .....	3	18	0
P <sup>d</sup> . to Goody Knight for washing & mending y <sup>e</sup> Surpliss.....	0	8	0
P <sup>d</sup> : the Pallitor for a Sitation to y <sup>e</sup> Courts .....	0	1	0
Given to A Poore man y <sup>e</sup> came with a certificate of request .....	0	0	6
P <sup>d</sup> : to John Wards for goeing to Castor .....	0	0	8
P <sup>d</sup> : to Will: Hunt for wine for y <sup>e</sup> communion at Christmas Palme Sunday and at Easter .....	0	16	2
P <sup>d</sup> for Bread for the same ocaation .....	0	0	4
		10	8 4

For the first quarter of the eighteenth century the accounts are not consecutive. Our readers will perhaps excuse a short summary of the contents of these, as this is the last opportunity the Editor will have of examining the papers before leaving the parish. There are in all, between 1701 and 1725, accounts for only nine years; viz., 1703, 1705-7, 1709-11, 1715, and 1722.

In 1703 drink for the Ringers was supplied on 29 May, 5 Nov., the Queen's birthday, and the Queen's coronation day. Hedgehogs were regarded as vermin, and those who killed them were paid 2d. each. Repairs at the church amounted to £2 8s. 6d. The total disbursements were £8 16s. 8d.

In 1705 an otter cost 1s. Church repairs came to £5 1s. 5d. There was a special ringing of bells on occasion of the Thanksgiving. A dog-whipper was also employed, and the parish officers perambulated the parish at Rogation-tide, as appears by these entries:—

Paid to Mathew Hickling to Will Alain to y <sup>e</sup> Ringers and all other places on y <sup>e</sup> day of Rogation which was expended...	3	4	6
Paid to y <sup>e</sup> dog whiper from y <sup>e</sup> Church.....	0	5	0

One of the items in the repairs was 2s. 2d. for a "fourdale board for y<sup>e</sup> Church Staires." The total expenses were £14 8s. 3d.

In 1706 £10 2s. 5d. was spent. Among the payments are these :—

It p <sup>d</sup> to 18 passengers that had been taken by the French priveteers.....	£	s.	d.
	0	1	6
Was spent on the account of heareing the Newes of a vctrey by the Duk of Marb <sup>ro</sup> and some other Ringing days.....	0	7	6

Among the receipts in 1707 is this :—

For breaking the ground in y <sup>e</sup> Loe Chancel to bury Mr. Cappit : Rec <sup>d</sup> .....	0	6	8
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By the “Low Chancel” is meant the Lady-Chapel, situated to the north of the chancel, two steps lower. It is somewhat singular that the churchwardens, and not the vicar, should have received such a payment. In another entry mention is made of “the church butts.” Money was paid to a man “for keeping a town Child that was found in y<sup>e</sup> road.” In the same year are these payments :—

Paid for ale drank the first day of May by the Townsmen and Ringers rejoyceing for y <sup>e</sup> Vnion of England and Scotland. The Queen being Croun <sup>d</sup> then for Scotland ...	0	12	6
Paid to a seaman which had a passe mede to Lincoln & back againe to sea which was assign <sup>d</sup> by Doctor Wolsey and he was to be ready at y <sup>e</sup> Queens service before the 29 day of December being one that escaped in a ship where more than two hundred men was lost and they alive had been prisoners to y <sup>e</sup> french .....	0	0	6
Paid Jeremiah Burton Glazer his Money for Leading and Mending the Church Steeple .....	2	8	3

The last entry shews that the word “steeple” does not necessarily mean a spire, as many people think. Maxey Church never had a spire. The dog-whipper appears again, this time by name, Stephen Fall, and had 5s. a year. One penny was paid “for hanging the Garlands on a pole.” Pole-cats, once written “pool-cats,” and once “fulmerd,” were valued at 2d. each. Much expense was incurred for the house of Francis Edmore ; and the payments for the year amounted to £28 0s. 3d.

In 1709 the disbursements came to £10 14s. 8d.

In 1710 the disbursements came to £16 3s. 5d. Of this £3 8s. 10d. was spent at “the pressessing,” doubtless the beating of the bounds, one charge being “for Bread and Tawbaco.” There seems to have been a difficulty in as-

certaining precisely which lands did really belong to the Church. Witness these items:—

Expended at several times aboute findeing y <sup>e</sup> Church Land at Ashton from our Beginning till y <sup>e</sup> first of Augt: .....	0	12	6
Expended at Several times aboute findeing y <sup>e</sup> Church Land from y <sup>e</sup> afore Mentioned time till y <sup>e</sup> 16 <sup>d</sup> : of Janv.....	00	12	6
Gave francs: Richardson At Several times for assisting us in findeing y <sup>e</sup> Church Land .....	00	05	0
gave a poore man to tell us whose Lands Lay next Sum of ours .....	00	01	0
for Writing a terry of y <sup>e</sup> Church Land to give Mr Wych ...	00	01	0
Expended at Several times aboute findeing y <sup>e</sup> Church land from y <sup>e</sup> time before Mentioned till Easter 1711 .....	00	10	6

In 1711 the payments amounted to £22 0s. 11d. Another “Prorambleation” took place this year, costing £3 5s. 0d. The officers were resolved to have no further doubt as to the landed property of the Church:—

Octobr y <sup>e</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup> : 1711 for 30 Stulps Eight Inches & $\frac{1}{2}$ Square and 2 foot 11 Inches long set for landmarks on y <sup>e</sup> Church land in Tenr of Mr <sup>s</sup> Palmer lying in Benton & Ashton Meadow and Inclosure at 14 <sup>d</sup> $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>d</sup> y <sup>e</sup> foot the sum of .....	1	16	3
Paid Benton Jury for Setting down y <sup>e</sup> Said Poosts .....	0	15	0
Paid Mr Turnill for going to observe & remembr y <sup>e</sup> Bounds & limits .....	0	02	0

Glazing at the Church was a heavy cost this year.

By 1715, perhaps in consequence of more exact “finding out” of the Church lands, and possibly from recovery of rents previously unclaimed, the receipts had largely increased, as they amounted in that year to £65 10s. 1d. The perambulation cost £3 10s. 10d. Considerable repairs were undertaken at the Church, including re-leading some of the roof, costing in all £42 3s. 2d.

Six years later, in 1721, the receipts were only £24 15s. 9d. But the churchwardens seem to have had confidence in the prospects of the rental, because they considered themselves justified in spending £81 15s. 11d.

The most serious payments were these, all connected with repairs in the Church:—

P <sup>d</sup> . Mr. Butcher for Joynts &c. us'd in pewing y <sup>e</sup> Church.....	3	15	3
P <sup>d</sup> . Woods for 94 Foot of Stone as per Bill .....	1	3	5
P <sup>d</sup> . Isaac Wing for mason Work, as by his Bill .....	4	1	4
P <sup>d</sup> . John Barber for Blacksmith's Work, as by his Bill.....	1	5	5
P <sup>d</sup> . Rob <sup>t</sup> . Tyers for work done in 1721, as per Recpt.....	11	15	5



	£	s.	d.
Pd. for 8 Str <sup>ke</sup> . of Lime .....	0	4	8
Pd. for Carriage y <sup>re</sup> of .....	0	2	0
Pd. for Carriage of 14 Load of Earth for levelling the Church alleys .....	0	7	0
Pd. for Carriage of a Load of Stone from Wood's Pitts.....	0	7	8
Pd. for Toll 8 <sup>d</sup> . expenses and loading .....	0	2	0
For 16 Foot of Stone us'd abt. y <sup>e</sup> Font at 3½ per Foot .....	0	4	8
Pd. Fra <sup>s</sup> . Smith for Clerk's Fees, &c. ....	1	4	4
For writing the s <sup>d</sup> . Coven <sup>t</sup> . abt. Pewing the Church .....	0	3	4
For writing a Settlem <sup>t</sup> . of Persons Seats 40 Tickets .....	0	3	4
Pd. Rob <sup>t</sup> . Tyers for 40 Pews as per agreement.....	30	0	0

Of late year's the dog-whipper's wages had been raised to 7s. 6d. a year. In 1731 Widow Faule received that sum. In the same year the schoolmaster, Mr. Catlin, had a salary of £5; and the mistress, Widow Walter, £2. Twenty years later the master, Nicholas West, had £3 12s. 0d., and Widow Walter, £2 12s. 0d. ED.

913.—**Boston Organist, 1820.**—For this office, when vacant in 1820, there were 50 applicants. A trial of skill was held in Marylebone church, on Sept. 6th, of thirteen of this number, before competent judges, and two of them were reported as of superior merit. The committee at Boston appointed for the purpose ultimately selected Mr. Reddie, of London. The following was the advertisement in *The Stamford Mercury* that announced the vacancy:—

To ORGANISTS.

**T**HE Situation of ORGANIST in the Parish Church of BOSTON, in the county of Lincoln, is vacant by resignation. The salary is £90 a year.—The duty comprises attendance and performance twice every Sunday and Christmas-day, and once every Thursday, and also every Friday previous to the monthly Sacrament, besides other occasional duties. Also the instruction of several Charity Children in Psalmody.—The town of Boston being large and populous, and the neighbourhood respectable, and there not being a Music Master within 15 miles of the town, a favourable opening occurs for teaching, if the candidate be an able musician.

Such persons as wish to offer themselves, are desired to send proper testimonials of their respectability, moral conduct, and being members of the Church of England, to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Boston, on or before the first day of August next; and if these are satisfactory, of which the candidates will have notice, they will be required to attend on some future day, at a place to be fixed on for that purpose, and make trial of their musical abilities and attainments, as well vocal as instrumental, before some competent judge or judges; and such candidate as shall be reported to be the best qualified for the situation, will be appointed to the said office, and will be required to enter into the duties of it as soon as possible afterwards.

June 24th, 1820.

**914.—The Commissioners of Sewers: Hetley's Habeas Corpus.**—The shortcomings of the Commissioners of Sewers were numerous, but now and again they attempted to overstep the warrant of their commission. Invested with a power to fine those who set at nought their decrees, they might enforce their authority, according to the laws of the land, by attachment; but the commission purported to empower them to act according to their "good wisdoms and discretions," words wide enough of themselves to support arbitrary acts if those words had not been qualified by the context which provided that their good wisdom was to be exercised according to the law of England. The erroneous views of the Commissioners in respect of their power to imprison the King's subjects were smartly reprov'd in the matter of the imprisonment of William Hetley on his application, in 1614, to the Court of King's Bench for the issuing of a writ of habeas corpus to be directed to Sir John Boyer, Sir Anthony Mildmay, Matthew Robinson and others, commanding them to bring Hetley before the Court, together with a return of the cause of his detainer. Afterwards the Court was moved for the discharge of Hetley out of the gaol of the Liberty of Peterborough. The case was this.\*

The Commissioners of Sewers in the County of Northampton assessed a sum of 5<sup>li</sup> on the ville of Dosthorpe† in respect of expences incurred about Clowes Cross drain, and appointed William Carryer and another to levy the whole sum on the cattle of William Hetley and to sell them. Hetley brought an action in the King's Bench against Carryer for the illegal seizure and sale and had judgment against him. Whereupon Hetley was summoned before the Commissioners of Sewers, and by them rebuked for vexing their officer, and he refusing to release his judgment, they committed him to the gaol of Peterborough on this warrant:—

\* B. R. 11 Jac. I. Hil: 2 Bulstrode 197. The writ of "habeas corpus ad subjiciendum," to discharge prisoners from illegal commitments is a writ of right founded on the common law of the land, though it is claimed under the Habeas Corpus Act of 31 Car. II.

† Dogsthorpe, a hamlet of Peterborough. It seems that Hetley resided there and pastured his cattle in Borough Fen where they were seized.

To take the body of William Hetley and him there to keep without bail or mainprize till he should hear further from them of some order to be taken for his delivery.

Chief Justice Coke,\* said

This commitment is unjust and illegal. We will grant an attachment against all the Commissioners and set good fines on all their heads for this their imprisoning of Hetley till he release his action which he hath in this Court against others. The matter cannot be suffered to go without exemplary punishment.

Afterwards (12 Jac. Pasch. B. R.) some of the Commissioners being present and justifying by reason of a general discretion given them by 23 Henry VIII., c. 5, but the Chief Justice said

That appertains to some matters in order to regulate your own proceedings, but the discretion exercised in administration of justice is a legal discretion, *i.e.*, to discern what is just according to law. What has been done here is a very great offence to commit a free-born subject to prison for refusing to release a judgment given here in this Court.

Sir John Boyer was committed to prison and was fined 200<sup>li</sup>. Sir Anthony† Mildmay absented himself on the plea of sickness. The Court ordered an indictment of præmunire to be drawn against him, but he obtained the King's pardon, which was, after demur, allowed by the Court, the Chief Justice complaining of the indignity brought on the High Court of Justice. Matthews and Robinson confessed the warrant, and pleaded ignorance of the law. They were committed to prison.

Hetley was wronged. The collectors of the tax seized his cattle to save themselves the trouble of levying it rateably on the landholders, leaving Hetley to recover contributions from

\* Sir Edward Coke, called Lord Coke, 1552-1634, the oracle of law. His ambition and avarice led him to advocate acts of injustice, and he had indulgent exceptions for the high and mighty, but he would not vilify the Bench by subservience to the Court. In *Colt v. Bp. of Coventry* (Hobbes, 140), affecting the King's right of granting commendams, the King, through Lord Bacon, directed the judges to stay the action until H.M. pleasure was known. They disregarded the injunction, and justified their conduct by reason of the judicial oath. Summoned before the King in Council, in an angry scene the King tore up their letter exclaiming "Will you obey hereafter?" All submitted but Coke, who said "he would do what an honest and just judge ought to do." In June, 1616, he was suspended from the exercise of his judicial duties on the ground that he had published in his Reports, as sound law, his own extravagant opinions, and for styling himself Chief Justice of England, whereas he was only of the King's Bench. In November, 1616, he was dismissed from office on account of "his perpetual turbulent carriage and his scornful treatment of the proposal to review his Reports." Coke was prosecuted in the Ecclesiastical Court for the illegality of his marriage with his second wife, Lady Hatton, who, when he was disgraced, "left him with an empty house and no comforter" but his "lawyer's day":

"Seven hours to law, to soothing slumber seven;  
Ten to the world allot, and all to heaven!"

† Sir Anthony, ob. 1617, son of Sir Walter Mildmay, 1520-1589. Sir Walter was Chancellor of the Exchequer and founder of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

his townsmen. Of this proceeding the Chief Justice said

The Commission of Sewers is as necessary as may be, but no commission is more abused than this is, for they do pretend the good of the Commonwealth, but do intend their own proper good. As to their taxes, they cannot tax a whole township but only particular persons. They are to tax and rate every man by a proportionable rate, they cannot do what they will.

It is remarkable that the arbitrary acts of the Commissioners of Sewers should have had the tacit approval of the Privy Council. That Board had from the earliest times issued warrants for arresting the King's subjects. The authority was inherent, and came to them when the King personally interfered in the administration of justice. When that function was transferred to the King's judges, a conflict between the Judges and the Privy Council was unavoidable. The Chief Justice bore the yoke with ill-humour, and smartly attacked Lord Bacon, who was too ready to lend his ear to the abuse of authority. This grievance was removed in 1640, by 16 Car. I., c. 10, which recites :

forasmuch as the Council-table hath of late times assumed unto itself a power to intermeddle in civil causes and have adventured to determine of the estates and liberties of the subject contrary to the law of the land by which great mischiefs have arisen

and then enacts "that the King or his Privy Council shall not have any jurisdiction over any mans estate and that every person committed by warrant of the Council-board upon demand or motion made by his Counsel\* unto the judges of the Court of King's Bench in open Court shall without delay have forthwith granted unto him a writ of habeas corpus."

Another abuse caused by the delay of gaolers to make their returns to this writ "by standing out on an alias and pluries habeas corpus and sometimes more and by other shifts to avoid yielding obedience to such writ" was remedied by the Habeas Corpus Act, 1679, 31 Car. II., c. 2.

The necessity of curbing the arbitrary power of the Privy Council is clearly shown by an astounding letter to the Commissioners of Sewers relating to this matter, and the arrest of Hetley on the warrant of the Council after his discharge by

\* By Counsel, not in person.

the High Court. This letter is among old Sir Oliver Cromwell's papers, which came from Ramsey.

To the Rev<sup>d</sup> father in God and very good Lord the Bp. of Peterborough and to o<sup>r</sup> loving ffrendes Sir Frances Fane Sir Anthony Mildmay and Sir Robert Bevell Knights and the rest of his Mat<sup>ies</sup> Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Northampton Huntingdon Lincolne and Cambridge.

After o<sup>r</sup> very hearty Comendacons. As soone as his Mat<sup>ies</sup> other weighty affaires have given us leasure wee have taken in o<sup>r</sup> consideracon that bussines of the Sewers recommended unto us from yow, which we acknowledge to be very waighty alsoe, and have therein proceeded as by our orders which wee send yow here inclosed will appere unto yow. Sir Francis Fane . . . who hath diligently and carefully attended this dispatche will acquaynt yow what course wee have held with those disobedient persons who was complained of for resisting of o<sup>r</sup> decrees and for molesting yow and your officers with unjust suites the example whereof as wee hope will be a warning for others to take heede of the like contemptes so hath it wrought that good effect w<sup>th</sup> some of those offenders also as to cause them to submit themselves and to release their actions.\* Only Heatly remaynes yet obstinate whose behaviour in this businesse being so insolent and without sufficient grounde eyther in justice or reason wee shall not hastily release him untill he humble himselfe and release as the rest have done. Thus having settled all things as wee hope in quiett both for the present or future that may disturbe this service of the Sewers wee shall exhorte admonish and require yow to goe forward in the same according as in former tymes you had wont to doe by vertue of yor comission and not to be discouraged by any new opinions or conceyts of lawe, muche lesse by y<sup>e</sup> opposition of such common and meane persons as easily spurne against authority when they feele any burden layd upon them. Wherein you shall never want the assistance of this table fforeseeing always that there be no just cause of complaint given by any abuse of yor said comission And so wee bid you hartely farewell. from the Courte at Whitehall: the 8<sup>th</sup> of Nouember 1616.

Your ever loving ffrendes

G. Cant. T. Suffolke. T. Arundell. Fr. Bacon.†

How long the Lords of the Council kept Hetley under lock and key does not appear, but the matter was still a trouble to the Commissioners in 1618, when Davy, the keeper of the Liberty Gaol, applied to their honors for the price of Hetley's dinners. They wrote to the Council, perhaps deeming this an affair for the Lords to settle in a way of their own.

To the R<sup>t</sup> Honb<sup>le</sup> the LL. and others of his Maty's most hon<sup>l</sup>. Pryvye Counsell.

May it please your honors to be advtised That we receyved yor Lordships lres of the fourth of Maie last with a petition made by Will<sup>m</sup> Hetlye to yor honors thereinclosed and we have examined the pties in the same taxed who have very sufficiently answered to every particular objected agst them. Then we gave day unto Hetlye until our next Session of Sewers at Peterborow to prove the suggestions in his said petition: At which time and place he appeared but was not able to prove

\* The practice of the Council was to censure and commit to the Marshalsea to be imprisoned until submission made at the Council table and to pay a fine. The prisoner usually submitted and petitioned for his liberation.

† Lord Verulam, who being convicted of corruption in the administration of justice and imprisoned, denied his guilt. At length he submitted, and on his knees, at the Council table said "I do most ingenuously confess that I am guilty of corruption."

any one pointe or article thereof: And at the same Session a petition was exhibited by John Davye the Gaoler of Peterborow agst the said Hetlye\* for releife for many greyvances and unjust molestacons done to him by the said Hetlye to the value of 31<sup>li</sup>. 7<sup>s</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup>. We considered of the petition untill the last day of March last on wch day we held a generall Session of Sewers at Stilton in the coy of Huntg<sup>n</sup> and thereupon the hearing of the busines it was ordered by nineteen commiss<sup>rs</sup> then present that Hetlye should paye unto the said Davy Twentie pounds unlesse he should show cause to the contrary at the next session of Sewers wch was holden this day at Peterborow when Hetlye appeared before eleven Comm<sup>rs</sup> and could show no cause at all yet expressly refused to performe our order though he had formerly submitted himself to our censures. If therefore it may please your honors to confirme our order or to take some course that the poore gaoler may be satisfied who received him into his gaole upon a mittimus under the hand of seven Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers and was never paide either for his diett or removinge him upon a habeas corpus procured by himselfe wee shall hold ourselves much bound unto your honors. And even so we humbly take our leaves restinge

Your honors ready to command

ffane.	Robert Bevill.	Ant. Forest.
Will. Hack.	Humfrey Orme.	Cha. Bolle.
Eusebie Catesbye.	John Browne.	Tho. Glapthorne.

Peterborow 21 Aprilis 1618.†

Surely the Commissioners who signed the warrant were responsible for the expences incurred by the gaoler? Did they expect Hetley to pay that bill?

They had illegally impounded and sold his cattle, locked him up in a noisome prison and carried him in custody about the country. Had they a charter to imprison free folk at their own sweet will? They were humbled: but if galled by their own folly, could that extenuate an intemperate appeal to the King in Council to coerce a suitor to submit to oppression? Adversity should have made them wiser: but wrong-doers never forgive. They rode home to the fens smarting under Hetley's taunt that when they seized his cattle again in Borough Fen they should be fogged in that spot of dull stagnation, and, entrapt by the curst sprite "Will," left by his guidance floundering in the meres among the knotted water-flags and bulrushes.

L.G.

\*Hetleys of Peterborough. This family dates from Thomas Hetley, who married Jane, daughter of Laurence Worme, of Peterborough, who was living in 1527. Thomas Hetley, Sergt.-at-Law, was of this family. Probably William was his brother. Sir Thomas died in 1637. His three sons, Francis, Thomas, and William were barristers of Gray's Inn. The last named seems to be the William who married Carina, daughter of Henry Cromwell; see *F. N. & Q.*, vol. 3, art. 679.—1611. Dec. 20. Thomas Hetley licensed to have a common bakery at Peterb.—1745. Richard Hetley, Peterb: Volunteer Corps. There was a monument of Richard Worme, M.A., in the north transept of the Cathedral, aged 59, 1589.

† S.P. Dom. Jac. I. 97.

**915.—Raimond Gaches, a Huguenot.**—France has taken a glorious part in the history of Reform. The culture of the XV. century ushered a freedom of the mind, awaking the echo of a voice, heard from afar, but not to be hushed, which told of the loss of some precious possession. Voices borne on the stream of time whispered of “the Message” which had redeemed the fierce Gaul. “Thou also art a responsible being.” Was all lost to their children? May faithful christian men shift all responsibility for their misdeeds by paying a groat? Surely that destroyed the very soul of them. It cannot be. It shall not be; so unfurl the banner of our freedom, and regain for all time that heritage which shall leave the glory of manhood on his ancient height. Who will rise to this task? Who will sanctify it with the devotion of life? Who are those immortal servants?—The Ministers!

That was “the Cause” of the Huguenot—a cry of the people from the vineyard, the plough, and the loom.\*

The Minister was teacher and leader, gathering alms and giving orders till the Reformers grew into a powerful party, able to defend themselves, and gain for leaders Princes of the Crown. Funds were collected in the Temples and France was organized into circles so that the faithful might be rapidly assembled. Thus a party, not a tithe of the people of France, were enabled to wage war against the Crown, to confederate with foreign powers, to control provinces, to tax the people, to levy customs on shipping, and to issue letters of marque to seize all “papist merchandise” on the ocean.†

\* This name of the Reform party was primarily a term of abuse. In France “hugon” is the goblin King. In the South, where French was not generally spoken in the 16th century, the sprite was known as “higon” and the party “the higonauts.” The Loire was the boundary of the old kingdom of France. The name of “tant s’en faut,” which clung to the Huguenot, had an honourable origin. The response of the Council to the inquiry of Henri III., groaning under the oppression of the League, whether the loyalty of the Huguenot was suspect, was a prompt “Tant s’en faut.” Far from it! and indeed a man of “la Religion Pretendue Reformée” was an ardent patriot. The School of Equity at Poitiers was called the Ministry, and as some of the earliest Reformers were students there, Calvin adopted the term “Minister” from them and applied it to the Pastors as ministers or servants of religion.

† One of these remarkable documents, bearing the seal of Cardinal Chastillon, is among our State Papers. Du Voisin, a famous Huguenot soldier, author of an admirable volume of “Troubles,” was engaged at one time in this piracy, and venturing into British waters in full chase of “marchandises papistes,” was challenged by our Admiral and lodged in the dungeons of Sandwich Castle, whence he writes to Lord Burleigh resenting that a French gentleman should be fed on raw herrings.

It was a State within a State. No King could abide it. It was this which led Henri Quatre to authorise the demolition of the bulwarks of the fortified towns, the strongholds of the Huguenot. Times change and the party might organize against the Crown again. The Edict of Nantes had not given contentment to all (A.D. 1598).

Raimond, son of Jacques Gaches, of Alby, a judge of the Court of the Edict in Languedoc and of the Court of Appeal of that province, was born, in 1615, in the heart of the land of the Albigeois. "Bonhomme" was in the blood of him; the memories of cruelty, the witnesses of persecution, the hatred of the Inquisition, and affliction of his kindred, all combined to tempt him to tread the thorny track of Reform. Endowed with a facility of speech, he was chosen to follow his father's profession; blessed with a gaiety of heart, which gladdened the sorrowing lives of those around him, he was "called" to the Ministry, and cheerfully forsook a path full of promise for one beset with anxiety and bound to put to proof his fortitude.\*

From Alby Raimond Gaches passed to Castres,† where his eloquence and devotion attracted the attention of the Provincial Synod, and led to his promotion to officiate in the Protestant Temple at Paris. This was in 1654. Louis XIV. was young, and Mazarin in the height of his power, when an energetic Minister would not escape attention of the Cardinal's spies. The Minister's reputation was extensive: his printed

\* There is an admirable French portrait of the Minister at the French Protestant Hospital, Victoria Park, N.E. Artist, unknown; date, 1655 to 1660. There is also an engraving by Frosné, 1652. The correct orthoëpy of the name cannot be distinguished from "Gash" in English.

† At Castres l'Agout he had kinsmen. Pierre Gaches, 1520-1574, founded the Protestant Temple in 1570, when he was Premier Consul or Mayor of that town; and Jacques Gaches, 1552-1610, a native of Castres, who has left valuable Chronicles of the Civil War. The record of Castres is marked in the history of Reform. During the 16th century it was held for the Huguenot party. J. Gaches was in the thick of the fights for 25 years, yet but once breaks silence in regard to himself. The Protestants had taken 40 prisoners, who encumbered their movements. At a Council of War some one rose and said, "Remember you of Gaillac!" where each man's kin had been so cruelly put to death, and they with one voice cried, "to death!" but J. G. forbade the deed, saying that it ill became them to imitate the cruelty of the Catholics. He was left alone, and hearing the pistols cracking in the Court, exclaims, "Surely God will revenge their death." In 1838 the population of Castres is given at 18,000, of which 733 were Protestants. After the Civil Wars the Catholic population was 4,000 out of a total of 9,500.



sermons are dated from the chief towns in France; as if he travelled on a "visitation";\* and when presiding at Paris his duty involved the reception of English and other Protestants sojourning in France. Sir William Lockhart, the English Ambassador, writes on Nov. 3, 1656, that "he was on Sunday last publicly received at Charenton by the Ministers and Elders, Mons<sup>r</sup>. Gaches making the welcoming speech in the name of the rest."† Charles II. was permitted to have a Chapel for Divine Service in the Palais Royal, where the Minister occasionally assisted Dean Cosin and other English divines in attendance on the King. This friendly reception by Episcopal Clergy afforded him an occasion to study the Anglican Liturgy. He was "marvelously edified," and not long after so testified to the French Presbyterian Community, already established in England, in order to remove their doubts about submitting to episcopal ordination and their scruples about adopting that Liturgy in the French Church at the Savoy. "Has not the Church always been governed by Bishops?"‡

He had in 1660 written to Richard Baxter, D.D., who was chief of the Presbyterians in England, commending the gracious bearing of the King and assuring him of His Majesty's steadfastness in the Protestant faith. This epistle is in Latin. A translation is printed in the Phenix, Vol. I., 1707; R.G. to

\* *Seize Sermons*, by R.G., Geneva, 1660. He was author of a devotional work; *Preparation a la Sainte Cène*; of *Translations of 2nd Book of the Iliad*, and of *3rd Book of the Odes of Horace*; and of many *Elegies and Sonnets*.

† S.P. and Nicholas Papers, Vol. 3. The Protestant Church was at Charenton, outside the old fortified City. The English Loyalists resident at Paris were buried at Charenton. In 1657, at the burial of Sir Edward Herbert, who was nominated Lord Keeper of the Great Seals, Dean Cosin officiated. Evelyn, who was at Paris with the Royalists, has in his Diary several notices of the Church. It was destroyed in 1685, at the time of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Fifty years ago a small building stood on the spot, in the walls of which some of the memorials, gathered from the cemetery, were built.

‡ Bishop Kennett has a note about this in the Register, and the correspondence with Dr. John Durel, S.T.P., then Minister at the Savoy, is in his Book, "Worship in Churches beyond the Seas," 1662. Dr. Durel was afterwards Canon of Windsor, where he died in 1683, aged 53:—

June, 1661.

R. Gaches, to John Durel,  
Paris. Savoy, London.

"Il y a long temps que je l'ai leue (la Liturgie) et j'en ai été merveilleusement edifié. Et votre très grand prelat de Duresme peut temoigner que j'ai assisté plus d'un fois au service qui faisait en Palais Royal et en l'autre maison qu'on leur avoit donné. Et il n'y a que peu de jours que j'avois encore assisté dans la maison ou My Ld de St. Alban fait aujourd'hui ses exercices."

the most famous man and most upright Pastor. R. Baxter, all health, from Paris, April 2, 1660. The Frenchman loved the good doctor for his "Saints Everlasting Rest."\*

It was important for the Royalists to conciliate the Presbyterians, who were a powerful party, and might have delayed the Restoration. The King had determined to take possession of his own again without the semblance of a menace of force. A few sailors rowed him from the ship "Royal Charles," and in humble fashion, accompanied by the French Minister, he stept on the beach at Dover, thus avoiding the pomp of royalty and soothing the prejudices of the "Independents."†

The French Reformers grieved that their old ally, the Queen of Islands, should seem tossed upon the waves, and that the odium of inconstancy should be cast upon the King :

"We are not of the 'No Bishop, No King' party. God bless your Church and all your England, nay our England, which is the flower and glory of all the Kingdoms wherein God is truly worshipped."

The "Revocation" had been long foreseen in France. The prediction brooded over the last National Synod of the Reformed Church held in 1660, and many turned their thoughts to England, as a place of Refuge. France would not be a place of rest for those who bore the Minister's name, and King Charles, graciously bearing in memory the service rendered to him by a Frenchman, nominated in 1661 his son John James‡ to be a King's scholar at Christ's Church, Oxford.

To our Trusty and welbeloved John Fells. Do<sup>r</sup> of Div.

and Dean of Christ's Church in our University of Oxon.

Trusty and Welbeloved, Having received good testimony of the hopeful parts and good proficiency of John Gaches and being grateously inclined by all due encouragement to ripen him in ve virtuous course of study We find him so early bent upon. We have thought good by these our lettrs. to

\* Richard Baxter, 1615-1691. The Dr. preached before the Parliament on 30th April, 1660, and the next day they voted the Restoration. The felicitous style of the "Saints Everlasting Rest" has won for it a permanent place in our literature. This book of devotion is the subject of Archbishop Trench's 1st St. James' lecture, "Baxter and the Saints Rest."

† There is a painting of this famous scene by Riviere, R.A. The French accounts of this event are more ample than our own.

‡ B.A. of the University of Nismes, son of Raimond of Castres, in Languedoc. Minister; admitted to Christ Church Coll., Oxford, 3 May, 1662, aged 20; incorporated 2nd Dec., 1662; M.A. 1665. He visited France after his father's death. At Castres he was arrested and imprisoned in the Port of Breseon. The order of Louis XIV. for his liberation, dated 9 July, 1681, describes him as "Chapelain Ordinaire Juré du Roy d'Angleterre." He left France within a month, his father's estate being seized by the Crown officers. In 1681 to 1692 he was Vicar of Ryhall cum Essendine, Rutland, and Rector of Wakerley, Northants., 1685 to 1699. In 1693 he was licensed to marry

recomend him to yo<sup>r</sup> favor willing yow forthwith upon receipt hereof to admit him into such students place of this our colledge as is now void or wch shall become next vacant after the arrivall of thes our lettrs.\*

Whereof we will not that you fail.

Whitehall Jan 27<sup>th</sup>, 1661.

Charles R.

The preaching in the Reformed Church seems cold and wearisome, as if the Ministers had not learnt the art of leaving off. † May be that circumstances restricted vigorous diction. Spies were taking notes. Bossuet and Bortaloue thunder from Nôtre Dame, and the Court went on in its wickedness! but the devotion of the Ministers touched the heart of man. The Gaches sermons have a plenitude of illustration, and grasp some urgent want of the time. Now and again words apt to spur on to the battle fly from the lip of the preacher. He comforts the recruits who had "chosen the good part"; "If ye fall ye gain a crown of glory and lose but the poor gratifications of this earth." Freedom of mind had brought with it a liberty, which is not welcome to the Church. "The fool who said in his heart there is no God" was lurking in the congregation. "Away. I know ye well." Each one declares "I am my reason." "Is all then false? This world and its covetousness will pass away and ye who are of it be forgotten! but grace will endure. All that man is or ever can be comes of the heart." ‡

In 1665 the death of the Minister's son, Raimond, who had joined in his father's work, happened. It was a wound that

"Margaret Roberts of Wakerley, spinster above 22, with consent of her father," V.G. Arch. Cant. The Wakerley Parish Register chronicles the baptism of his only son on Feb. 13, 1694:—

John Gaches son of John James Gaches rector of Wakerley was bapt. Feb. 13 1694. The Honble. Mr. John Noël gave him his name and Sir Andrew Wolferson stood godfather with him and My Lady Mary Noël godmother. John was born 21st Jan. at 5 of the clock in the morning.

1696. Elizabeth daur. of John James Gaches and Margaret Roberts was born 3 May at 3 o'clock in the morning and was bapt. May 30. Mr. Henry Gaches vicar of Normanton godfather and Mistress Mary la Cam and Madame Esther de Prades her godmothers.

The Gaches family about Peterborough are derived from this John, who matriculated at Hart Hall, Oxford, 15th June, 1716, aged 18. Others of this family, expelled from France about the time of the Revocation were: Henri, who in 1689 was vicar of Normanton on Trent, co. Notts.; Raimond, in 1679 rector of Barling, Essex, and vicar of Eastwood. There was also a Captain John James, interred in the Huguenot cemetery at Wandsworth in 1747, aged 76. Jean Antoine did not come over the Channel till 1702. In the register of the French Protestant Hospital he is described as gentilhomme, Seigneur of Prades.

\* S.P. Car. II. Entry Book, 6, p. 17.

† Vinet. A.R. Hist: de la Predication pour les Reformés de France. 1860. 80.

‡ L'athéisme confondu. Others entitled Le Consolateur, Le triomphe de l'Évangile (1654) and Jesus dans l'agonie.

never healed. In 1668 he solaced his retreat at Castres with meditations amid the solitudes of Alby. It seemed to him that in the scenes of his childhood he breathed a purer air, that a fresher verdure clothed the meadows, and the rills that glittered down those rocky channels more sweetly murmured. In 1668, at a seance of the Literary Society of Castres, he contributed an elegy entitled "The affliction of a father for the death of his son." It was his last effort. He died in December, and on 15th January following the Doctor Borel pronounced his eloge.\*

Raimond Gaches was one of the founders of the Society. They were all Protestants. The names of several are known in England: Rapin, Pelisson, and Nicholas. Nayral, in the *Biographie Castraise*, 1833, gives a good account of this Society, which was "interdicted" by Louis XIV. at the Revocation. He relates (vol. iv., p. 537) "L'Academie Castraise possedait une belle bibliotheque dont la depense fut votée le 10 Juin 1653, et un petit musée dans lequel chaque membre avait placé son portrait suivant une deliberation du 27 avril 1655."

Louis XIV. had been taunted that he was reduced to live in treaty with heretics. This provoked that insensate act which laid desolate the provinces of his realm, the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, October 22nd, 1685. The Duke of Saint Simon, a man of serious mind, bears witness to the disastrous result: "a fourth of his kingdom depopulated, its commerce ruined, the estates of his subjects delivered up to public pillage, and thousands hunted to death as if they were wild beasts." When Louis le Grand was told of the desolation of the Huguenots he congratulated himself on his power! †

\* Pierre Borel (1620-1689), physician in ordinary to the King. He left several works which are still in high esteem. The "Tresor des Antiquités Gauloises," 1655, has been recently reproduced.

† Louis XIV. was not of high stature. A way of puffing himself out and strutting about on heels two inches high, under a lofty wig, gave him an imposing look. Largilliere's painting, in the Wallace Collection, represents him at home with the Dauphin, the Duke of Bourgoyne, and M<sup>d</sup>me. de Maintenon.

The sufferings of the people were nought, but their murmurs were not to be stifled; they grew apace with their wants, till time bringing round its revenge, there burst out a voice of the people in 1789 as if the wrath of God was kindled against the hapless rulers of the land. The Revocation scattered the Ministers over the face of the earth; their flocks followed them. "La fuite" was general; to the Alps and over the Rhine; to Flanders and over the Channel. From doubt and dread to safety and peace. From oppression to comfort, to live under a clement Prince who gave them a home and freedom in England.

L.G.

**916.—Moulton, Lincolnshire: Cole's MSS.**—Probably Cole's MSS., Vols. 43 and 45 (Add. MSS. 5844), are two of the most interesting manuscripts in the British Museum that deal with the past monastic history of South Lincolnshire. These volumes relate to Spalding (Vol. 43), and to Crowland (Vol. 45) abbeys, and to the Fenland villages under their respective influence. I am not aware that any portion of these valuable records referring to any particular Fenland parish has been collected and published: and though the volumes have been largely used by writers on the two monasteries, they have been little used for parochial history. This is probably owing to two principal reasons: the difficulty in deciphering Cole's writing, with the many abbreviations that he employed; and the greater difficulty in finding a ready channel (which *Fenland Notes and Queries* now happily supplies) of publishing such extracts for the reading public.

I may be perhaps pardoned in selecting extracts relating to my native village, Moulton, in South Lincolnshire. I have, however, two good excuses. The place was "the fayre vill" of Spalding Abbey, in which dwelt their powerful head tenants, the Multon family; who lived at their castle in the park there. Of their home nothing now remains but a grassy mound with a moat, called Hall Hills. And, secondly,

Cole, when a young antiquary, frequently visited the place, as he does not forget to tell us in his notes. That he should stay often in the village is not surprising, for his half-sister was the wife of Mr. Chapman, the master of the "well endowed schools" at Moulton, who had among his pupils Cole's younger brother John, who died at school, and was buried with the Chapmans in the centre "walk" of the nave of Moulton church.\*

In Vol. 43, p. 339, Cole, remarking on a deed about Spalding Church, then about to be built, says:—

This is a very curious document, and shows the generosity and zeal of the convent for so small a sum of £80 (£20 being for the two bells) who were to build the parish a new church equal to that of Moulton, which is an extremely beautiful and elegant one, all of free stone, with a fine spire on the tower; but the last they seem to be exempted from building,—perhaps the parish were to perform that part themselves. I have often been in Moulton Church, where my own younger brother John Cole, and my half sister by my father's side, Elizabeth, the wife of the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. John Chapman, lie buried in the middle isle before the pulpit. Mr. Chapman was the son of a clergyman in this neighbourhood. My brother Chapman had the well endowed schools at Moulton, where my brother was sent under him, died, and was buried there.

He also mentions that there was a custom of ringing the midnight peal, "as it was called, on our Blessed Lord's Nativity, at twelve of the clock at night, exactly as the clock strikes."

At p. 373 of the same volume we have another reference to Moulton:—

In a little pack-book—the first of the sort I ever made use of—I marked down the 5 following coats of arms in Moulton Church, in the year 1735, being on a visit to my brother and sister Chapman: but I was so young an antiquary and herald that I did not sufficiently distinguish whether they were in the windows on glass, or on Atchments. The first is evidently on glass, being the ancient arms of Thomas de Moulton Baron Egremont.

Arg. 3 bars gules, a label 5 points or. Probably the second is on glass also, viz., gules, a chevron inter 10 crosselets potent or, a label of 3 points arg.

The third may be also, being, Argent on a cross azure 5 garbs or fleur de lis, a border arg or.† I made these, so imperfectly that I am not sure what they were meant for.

The other two arms were modern.

Besides the local interest these records must necessarily have, the extracts that will be given relating to Moulton, have

\* At the restoration of the church in 1868 the monumental slabs were removed to another part of the church.

† Clearly some error. The bordure could not be *or* if the field were *argent*.—ED.

a national importance, as they give a most graphic insight into the dealings of the monasteries with the laity, displaying the interest they took in the welfare of their tenants and in their churches; and into the mutual relationships between the monks and their episcopal superiors on the one hand, and their neighbours on the other: and they furnish, also, help towards the more complete understanding of the working of monastic England of long ago. These extracts need few words from me. They will speak for themselves of their general as well as local value; and I have only to thank *Fenland Notes and Queries* for giving its columns to enable me to give a few nuggets from Cole's valuable mine of historic wealth; and so, perhaps, induce others to trespass on its pages, and give extracts from these MSS. relating to other parishes in which they may be interested.

I may in conclusion state that the extracts were taken by me when, like Cole, I was a young antiquary, in 1869; but I was fortunate in obtaining the assistance of the late Mr. Simms, of the British Museum Staff, who copied and translated them for me; so that I need scarcely say that reliance can be placed upon them.

W. E. FOSTER, F.S.A.

Lindum House, Aldershot.

The lands and tenements which Yvo Taillebois, first husband to Lucia the Countess, who came with William the Conqueror, held in Spalding, Pyne, Multon, and Weston.

In Spalding the Earl Algar holds 9 ploughlands, by tribute, and land for a like number of ploughs. Yvo holds there 4 ploughlands in demesne, and 40 villeins, and 33 bordars, holding 13 ploughs. There is a market 40<sup>s</sup>.; and 6 piscaries, 30<sup>s</sup>.; and by tribute of salt, 20<sup>s</sup>.; and of alder-wood, 8<sup>s</sup>. In the time of King Edward it was valued at £23 2s. 8d., now at £30. Tallage, £30.

In Wyke [Tite?] are 3 ploughlands and 2 bovates, by tribute, and lands for 2 ploughs at Bradowe [Berew] in Spalding. There are 9 villeins, and one bordar, holding 3

ploughs. Yvo holds there 2 ploughlands in demesne, and a church.

In Pynce bek [Picebech Soc] are 10 ploughlands, held by tribute, and land for 10 ploughs. There are 22 socmen, and 16 villeins, and 12 bordars, they hold 9 ploughs; and 4 piscaries, and 500 eels.

In Weston and Multon Soc are 10 ploughlands, and 1 bovate, held by tribute, and land for a like number of ploughs and bovates. There are 26 socmen, and 31 villeins, and 20 bordars, holding 20 ploughs.

Note by Cole. "This I take to be part of Domesday Book. Finished this First Part at Molton, May 6. 1772."

Cole MS., 43, 219.

#### Of Herbert the Prior.

Herbert, dative Prior, who in the time of William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln, was founder of the Abbey of Revesby, acquired the churches of Spalding, Pinchbeck, Moulton, Hanteburg, for the proper use of the Prior and Convent of Spalding, with all their appurtenances, in the time of Robert, 2nd Bishop of Lincoln, as above, 3 part, fo. 4 [i.e., p. 328, N<sup>os</sup>. 1 & 2]. In that the said Prior and Convent appointed the Vicars temporal in the said churches, according to their will, for seven or eight years, or for any other time, at their pleasure; as above, part 3, fo. 21 [i.e., p. 349, N<sup>o</sup>. 4; 350, N<sup>os</sup>. 1, 2].

"In the gift or nomination of the Abbots of Angiers. The earlier Priors were called 'Priores dativi.'"

Cole MS., 43, 91.

Articles offered against Sir Thomas de Multon, by the Prior and Convent of Spalding, Rectors and Patrons of the Church of Multon, and by the Vicar of the same.

In the first place it is offered against the said Sir Thomas, that he has a certain Chapel unlawfully erected within his manor, and causes divine service to be there celebrated without his consent or will of the said Prior and Convent and of the



Vicar, and without the authority of any superior person, to the danger of his soul, and to the no small prejudice and injury of the said Prior and Convent, and the Vicar of the Parish Church of Multon. Likewise that the Chaplains celebrating in the same, by the power and authority of the said Sir Thomas, receive the parishioners of Multon, not only at the Sacraments, but also at the Sacraments of the Church, contrary to the injunctions of the holy canons, to the danger of his soul, etc. [as above]. Likewise that his Chaplains aforesaid, by the power and authority of the said Sir Thomas, unjustly appropriate to themselves, and carry away for their own use, to convert to their own pleasure, the oblations made in the said Chapel, and also other offerings which by right belong to the Parish Church aforesaid. On which account the said Chaplains are *ipso facto* suspended from the celebration of the Divine Offices, and are irregular in like manner when celebrating the Divine Offices, yea, rather profaning them. Which said Chaplains the said Sir Thomas, contrary to the law of God and justice, sustains and defends in the wickedness of such iniquity and manifest error, to the prejudice and subversion of the rights of the Parish Church of Multon, to the danger of his soul, etc. [as above]. Likewise, since it pertains to parish rights, that all the parishioners ought, at least on Sundays and Feast days, to attend their Parish Church devoutly, there to attend to the prayers diligently, to listen to the Divine Offices, and other salutary admonitions which are wholesomely made for the information of the people, nevertheless the said Sir Thomas has hitherto refused, with contempt, to attend the Parish Church of Multon aforesaid, whilst he remains there, or in any way to acknowledge it by his personal presence, and still refuses unduly, to the danger of his soul, etc. [as above]. Likewise that since the parishioners, according to ecclesiastical discipline, ought, on Sundays and Feast days, as aforesaid, to come to the Parish Church, not alone to pray there, and hear the Divine offices, but also that

they might be present together, anxious and attentive to the declaration of the Feasts and of the Banns, to the mandates of the Church and of their superiors, and to executions and injunctions there made by the Ministers of the Church, as the custom is, for the information of the people and the salvation of their souls, and that they might reverently and devoutly fulfil such injunctions and instructions, to the utmost of their power, nevertheless the said Sir Thomas, and others of the parish of Multon, by the authority only of the said Sir Thomas, and by occasion of the said Chapel, under-estimating and despising their own Parish Church, assemble in the aforesaid Chapel on the said Sundays and Feast days, to hear Mass there only, entirely regardless of the salutary admonitions of their mother Church, and all injunctions and informations of the same, like sons degenerate towards their mother, which is horrible, to the manifest danger of his soul, and of the souls of many others, and to the prejudice of the Parish Church, etc. Likewise that by his own authority, and by occasion of the said Chapel, he differs from the community of the parishioners of Multon, and strives to avoid parochial law and subjection, in that although he is a parishioner there, he will not receive the Holy Bread, like as others his parishioners devoutly and thankfully receive it, chiefly because he is not the patron of the said Church, neither does he admit the Clerk, bearer of the Holy Water (*bajulum aque benedictæ*), which is disgraceful in such a lord, since even the poor villeins of the parish, and the miserable old women likewise, cherishing their household-god, receive it gratefully and kindly; the duty of which said Clerk was first of all devised for the common convenience of the parishioners, and thus far laudably approved, and, from time immemorial, has been generally observed. Likewise that since all the parishioners are bound by parochial laws, to contribute to the building of the Parish Church, and to acknowledge and sustain it, like as sons a mother, the same Sir Thomas, although a parishioner of the

Church of Multon, and a son of the same, amongst others greater and more powerful, has refused to contribute any part of his goods towards the building of the Church, and refuses unlawfully, because by no special law is he free from this kind of duty, to the danger of his soul, etc. [as above]. Likewise since it belongs to the Church of Multon and to the Ministers to make citations through the parish, and corrections, for the most part enjoined by the mandate and authority of superiors, the said Sir Thomas wishing to exempt his Chapel aforesaid, and by reason of the said Chapel the whole of his manor of Multon, does not permit any one of his family, by reason of any compact or contract, to be cited within the boundaries of the said manor, nor otherwise justified according to the form of the Church, but as well he as others of his family, under his authority and power, waywardly resist and intolerably rebel, lest they should be cited and corrected, as well for the cruel injuries oftentimes brought upon the Ministers of the said Church, as also for mortal threats; so that the Ministers of the said Church dare not approach the manor of Multon aforesaid, for the purpose of making any citation or execution on the part of the Church, neither can they do so without danger of death, or pain of body; on which account many sins committed by the said family are left unpunished; and ample opportunity for sinning is afforded by the said Thomas, whilst he cherishes and defends such persons in sin and error contrary to the state of the Church, and the reverence of God and the Church, and likewise to the notorious detriment of his soul, and of the souls of many others, and to the prejudice and injury of the Church of Multon, and of the said Prior and Convent, and of the Vicar.

But the said Prior and Convent and the said Vicar protest, that if the said Thomas has, for himself, any special right, by reason of which he can duly claim such rights, or defend himself in the premises, and be in any way exempt from parochial right, that such right and judgment being shown in due form,

or inasmuch as he shall show that he is lawfully protected by special privilege with regard to any article in the premises, they will be so far ready to yield to these oppositions, and to cease from their pursuit in this matter, and to dismiss him in peace, commended to the Lord. [Fo. 329, a. b. 330, a.]

Cole MS., 43, 375.

NOTE.—I think it only right to say that Sir Thomas had the Pope on his side, so that we may hope, that his soul, after his death, fared well, as his body did in life, for he was a man of great power and wealth, his possessions being large in Lincolnshire as in the North.

W. E. F.

**917.—Skating at Crowland, 1820.**—The following is from *The Stamford Mercury* of 28th January, 1820 :—

SKATING.—The ancient town of Croyland, in this county, was on the 17th inst. visited by a numerous and respectable company from all parts within a distance of 20 or 30 miles (exceeding in number 4000 persons), to witness the skill and strength of the four first running-skaters in England, who contended for a free prize of five guineas in a two-mile heat. The competitors were, Mr. John and Charles Staplee (brothers), of Croyland Bank; and Messrs. Young and Gettam, of Nordolph, Norfolk. The first heat was run by Mr. Charles Staplee (18 years of age), and Mr. Young of Nordolph, the conqueror of the eight runners at Wisbech, and winner of the prize there. At starting 20*l.* to 1*l.* was offered on Young; and the odds continued during the whole time of running, which did not exceed six minutes,—when, to the extreme surprise of all the spectators, within 30 yards of the flag, Mr. Staplee passed Mr. Young in great style, and won the heat by 4 yards.—The second heat was run by Mr. John Staplee and Gettam, and was won by Gettam.—The third heat, between Gettam and C. Staplee, was well contested, and won by Gettam.—Notwithstanding the result of the above race, Mr. John Staplee will still abide by his previous challenge.

**918.—Cattle Salesman's Account (887).**—In your issue for April I observe a very interesting paper under the above heading. This induces me to send you another similar account, though of much later date. Mr. Crane was a Thorney Fen Farmer. His sheep must have been of extraordinary weight, and even then mutton must have been very dear. They probably weighed 40 lbs. per quarter, and I should say they may have been three or four years old. The price of such mutton to-day would be difficult to fix; possibly not more than

3d. or 4d. a pound: and it would be hard to find anybody to eat it.

Tilney All Saints.

STEPHEN GREGORY.

Direct to Me at Messrs. Sharpe & Sons,  
West-Smithfield, London.

104 Sheep sold for Mr. R. Crane 28 of Feb: 1814.

38	Howard .....112/-	212	16	„	Selling & Charges	4	6	8
7	Balsh .....116/-	40	12	„	Grass, &c.....	—	—	—
5	Neesham ...115/-	28	15	„	Letters .....	—	—	—
27	Howson .....116/-	156	12	„	Carriage .....	„	6	8
10	Tuck .....112/6	56	5	„	Drover .....	8	13	4
1	Bagley .....100/-	5	„	„	To.....	580	1	4
11	Beal .....118/-	64	18	„				
5	Hatton .....114/-	28	10	„				
104		£ 593	8	„		£ 593	8	„

William Hebb

919.—**Boston Chapel of Ease.**—The first stone of this chapel was laid on June 23rd, 1820, and an account of the ceremonial was given in *The Stamford Mercury* of the following Friday, the 30th. This account commences as follows:—

Application was made to the Archdeacon of Lincoln, soliciting his presence at the intended ceremony: the Archdeacon's engagements, however, it was found would not admit of his being at Boston: in consequence, the Mayor and about four-fifths of the members of the corporation, five of the clergy of the town and a number of other inhabitants, assembled about 12 o'clock on Friday the 23rd inst., at the Town-hall, and at half-past 12 the procession proceeded to the ground on which the Chapel is to be erected, in the following order:

The Oar, Mace, and other Ensignia, carried by the proper officers.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, John P. Hollway, Esq.

The Members of the Corporation, two and two.

Rev. J. Banks, Rev. J. Wayet, (Lecturer of Boston church), Rev. J. Caparn,  
Rev. Emerson Chapman, Curate, and Rev. Richd. Conington, Assistant

Curate of Boston church.

Trustees, Subscribers, and other Gentlemen, two and two.

The Blue Coat Children (both boys and girls) with white wands, two and two.

On arriving at the north-east corner of the ground, the Mayor descended, and laid in the accustomed manner the *first stone* of the intended edifice, in which was imbedded a large plate, having engraved on it the following inscription :

THE FIRST STONE OF  
THIS CHAPEL  
WAS LAID JUNE 23, 1820,  
BY JOHN PALMER HOLLWAY, ESQ.,  
MAYOR.

The Mayor then made an address, and a prayer was offered by the Lecturer, the Rev. J. Wayet ; after which the Rev. J. Caparn gave an "admirable address, which was spoken with great force of eloquence"; and the ceremony was concluded by a hymn sung by the Blue Coat children.

The day's proceedings would hardly have been complete without a banquet. Accordingly, at 4 o'clock, the Mayor and nearly 30 other gentlemen dined together at the Peacock Inn.

The Rev. B. Goe, who was vicar at the time, does not seem to have taken any part in the observances of the day. Indeed the erection of this Chapel of Ease appears to have been in antagonism to the old parish church. According to Mr. Jebb's *Guide to the Church of S. Botolph*, it was through dissatisfaction at the dulness of the parish church that the chapel was built. It was to be independent of the vicar, and had no cure of souls, while the minister's stipend was charged upon the property of the corporation. All the pews were private freeholds.

ED.

**920.—Church Bells.**—The following extract, from the *Stamford Mercury* of July 31st, 1807, may be of interest to readers of "*Fenland Notes and Queries*."

" Bell-Foundery.

William Dobson, of Downham-Market, in the county of Norfolk, Bell-Founder and Hanger, (Successor to his Grandfather, the late Mr. Thomas Osborn), returns his most grateful acknowledgements . . . ." etc., "& respectfully submits to their attention (the public) the following Statement of the

Several Peals of Bells (with the Weight of each Tenor) cast and hung by Mr. Osborn and himself since the year 1779 :

	No. of Bells.	Wt. of Tenor.		No. of Bells.	Wt. of Tenor.
Hilgay, Norfolk .....	8	17	Wimeswould, Leic. ....	6	13
Downham, ditto .....	8	12	Walsoken, Norfolk .....	6	15
Outwell, ditto .....	6	12	Sleaford, Lincolnsh. ....	8	21
Stoke by Clare, Suf. ....	6	13	Navenby, ditto.....	6	13
Finchingfield, Essex ....	8	18	Heveningham, Suff.....	5	9
St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate,			Crimplesham, Norf.....	5	7
London .....	8	21	Marham, ditto .....	6	12
Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex	8	20	Woodbridge, Suff. ....	8	27
Bury, Suffolk .....	10	30	Glington, Northamp.....	6	16
Thetford, Norfolk .....	8	19	March, Camb. ....	6	16
Tibbenham, ditto .....	6	20	Timberland, Lincs. ....	6	13
Soham, Camb. ....	8	21	Elston, Notts. ....	5	10
Waterbeach, ditto .....	5	7	St. John's Marshland,		
W. Dereham, Norf. ....	5	7	Norfolk .....	6	12
Gt. Saxham, Suff.....	3	6	Tid Saint Mary's, Cam-		
Brant Broughton, Lincoln-			bridgeshire .....	5	13
shire .....	6	15	Newton, ditto .....	6	12
Parson Drove, Cambridge-			Wisbech St. Mary's ditto	5	11
shire .....	4	10	Coleby, Lincolnsh. ....	5	10
Farnsfield, Notts.....	5	11	Harmston, ditto .....	8	12
Swineshead, Linc. ....	8	18	Gedney-hill, ditto .....	5	10
Gedney, ditto .....	5	13	Billinghay, ditto .....	3	7
Blo' Norton, Suff.....	5	8	Emneth, Norfolk.....	5	12
Godmanchester, Hunts....	8	21			

Also, upwards of 150 other Church Bells, not forming complete peals.

Downham-Market, July, 1807”

J.H.S.

**921.—Stained Glass in Peterborough Cathedral, c. 1720.**

—In Bridges' Northants. Collections in the Bodleian, Vol. xlv., AA. 4. pp. 82, &c., is a description of the stained glass remaining in Peterborough Cathedral at the beginning of the eighteenth century. I do not find the exact date at which the notes were taken. But the Maxey notes in the same volume are dated 1721, and one of the monumental inscriptions the observer gives later is dated 1701. Some of the figures described are still to be seen, and many of the fragmentary texts, in the windows of the apse, where they were placed by Dean Tarrant (1764—1791). The lettering which is called “Old Saxon Capitals” is probably what has been called Lombardick. Either this lettering was very much faded, or the copyist could not easily read them, for several of the inscriptions he gives are hopelessly inaccurate.

In y<sup>e</sup> West Window of y<sup>e</sup> Church in y<sup>e</sup> lower part of the 2 Pannel to y<sup>e</sup> S. is the Portraiture of our Saviour giving to S<sup>t</sup>. Peter the Keys both w<sup>h</sup> Glory ab<sup>t</sup> y<sup>r</sup>. Heads & Clothd in Crimson & Blew behind S<sup>t</sup>. Peter who has a Wreathd (*sic.*) on his head three Persons in different habits over our Saviour & S<sup>t</sup>. Peter's Head who has the Keys in his Hands these Words in Gothick

**Dabo tibi Claves Regni**

[“I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom (of heaven).” S. Matt. xvi. 19.]

In y<sup>e</sup> middle Pannel at the bottom a Person Clothd in blew & red by his side a Scrip and over his head these Words revers'd in Gothick

**Dne non erit ti . . .**

[“Lord, this shall not be unto Thee.” S. Matt. xvi. 22.]

In y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> Pannel to the N. at y<sup>e</sup> bottom The Portraiture of a Person w<sup>th</sup> Glory ab<sup>t</sup>. his head teaching 3 Persons & over his head in Gothick

**non sapis ea quæ Dei sunt**

[“Thou savourest not the things that be of God.” S. Matt. xvi. 23.]

Over the three Persons heads these Words in Gothick

**Absit Laudate Domine &c.**

[The first word manifestly misplaced. Originally it formed the beginning of the second text given before;—“Be it far from Thee.” The last two words, “Praise ye the Lord,” are from the Psalter. They do not occur in the New Testament.]

In y<sup>e</sup> N. Pannel The Portraiture of Moses holding in his hand the ten Commandments & opposite to him two Persons w<sup>h</sup>. Glory ab<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>r</sup>. Heads before Moses these words in Gothick

**Dne bonum est nos . . . esse.**

[The word omitted is “hic.” From the account of the Transfiguration, “Lord, it is good for us to be here.”]

Under Moses this Word

**Moses.**

Below these 3 Persons feet viz<sup>t</sup>. on y<sup>se</sup>. w<sup>h</sup>. the Glory a Female Portrait & under her

**Amys.**

In the middle between Moses & the 2 Persons at y<sup>e</sup> bottom a broken Portrait & under it in Gothick

**Petre.**



In y<sup>e</sup> farther Pannel to the S. The Portrait of our Saviour w<sup>h</sup> tbc on his robe teaching the People and between him & them these Words in Gothick

**et super banc Petram**

[“And upon this rock.” S. Matt. xvi. 18.]

Over the Peoples head 3 of whom are only Visible these Words **et secuti sunt.**

[“And they followed (him).”]

Below these at y<sup>e</sup> Top & corners of the other Divisions are Angels Holding Books & Singing.

In y<sup>e</sup> upper part of the South Light Is the portraiture of our Saviour Conversing w<sup>th</sup>. S<sup>t</sup>. Simon & S<sup>t</sup>. Andrew their Robes are Crimson and Blew and by them on 2 Labells are these Words in Gothick

**Symo filius Johan.**

**Andreas frat Symonis.**

[“Simon son of Jona; Andrew brother of Simon.”]

In y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> Pannel to the S. at top the Portrait of a Person w<sup>th</sup>. Glory ab<sup>t</sup>. his head before him some People & over their Heads this on a Label in Gothick

**nra u<sup>te</sup> id fecerim<sup>s</sup>.**

[“(As though) by our own power . . . we had done this.” Acts iii. 12. Instead of “id” in the Vulgate we have “hunc ambulare,” “(made) this man to walk.”]

In y<sup>e</sup> middle Pannel at Top the Picture of our Saviour taking his Leave of his Disciples at his head this Word in Gothick **ecce relinquo.**

[“Behold, I leave . . .” I do not identify this text.]

Lower he appears to y<sup>e</sup> Apostles & between y<sup>m</sup> are these Words in Gothick **noli timere**

**no su dne.**

[“Fear not.” S. Luke, v. 10. “Lord I am not (worthy).” Perhaps from S. Matt. viii. 8.]

In the N. Pannel next to the Top our Saviour Talking to his People but no Inscription.

Below this our Saviour Speaking to his Disciples over his Head These Words in Gothick

**me esse dicitis.**

[“(Who) say ye that I am?” S. Matt. xvi. 15.]

Over his Disciples heads in Gothick

**Tu es equus filius dei.**

[“Equus” must be a misreading for “xps,” i.e., “Christus.” “Thou art the Christ, the son of the (living) God.” S. Matt. xvi. 16.]

In the Pannel next to the N. at y<sup>e</sup> upper end in Gothick

**dari onia p caro**

This Last Label is Patcht up & is between our Saviour speaking to his Apostles & People one of whom has a Scrip by his side. Our Saviours left hand lifted up his right close to his side.

In the upper part of this West Window are these 6 sev<sup>ll</sup>. Coats of Arms. Viz<sup>t</sup>. to the S.

Az. Gutté D'eau . . . Impal. Arg<sup>t</sup>. a Cheveron B. int. 3 fleur de Lis Sa.

Az. a Cheveron int. 3 Wolves heads coupé Or.

Gu. 2 Keys in Saltire Or. int. 4 Cross croslets fitche.

Az. a Cross flory int. 4 Lions ramp<sup>t</sup> arg<sup>t</sup>.

. . . a Cheveron . . . in chief 2 fleur de Lis Sa.

Arg<sup>t</sup>. a fess sa. . in chief a Mullet of 6 Points pierod of y<sup>e</sup> field. Impaling Arg<sup>t</sup>. A Cheveron Sa.

Each of these 6 Shields are held by an Angel above these Shields are 6 Saints richly clothd in Vestments of Crimson, White, & blew.

And above these 6 are 2 more Angels in beautiful attire and on the Top of all is a Glory Crownd.

In the middle East Window of the Library\*

On Abbot Kirktons Robe this broken Word put in by the Glazier

**mas.**

In y<sup>e</sup> lower Window last one to the W. The Portraiture of a Person in blew Crownd riding on an Ass meeting a Person clothd in Yellow the Index of his right hand pointing to some Sheep above these Persons imperfect Words in Saxon Cap<sup>ls</sup>. in y<sup>e</sup> lower Pannel

**VIRGO CUST  
OS AVIUM**

[Possibly a mistake for “ovium.” But who was the “Virgin, keeper of the sheep?”]

\* The central window of the New Building.

In another pane in Saxon Capitals likewise

ARCARCEREDE

In y<sup>o</sup> next Window above in y<sup>o</sup> like letters

THOMECOSECACIO

["Consecration of Thomas": probably S. Thomas of Canterbury.]

Under y<sup>m</sup> Two Bishops putting a Mitre upon another person standing with Monks abo<sup>t</sup>. him.

In another pane ODEDREIO

In y<sup>o</sup> next Window (or 3<sup>d</sup> from y<sup>o</sup> W.) these imperfect wordes in y<sup>o</sup> like Capitals

NITUR KATE BINE O PPO

In y<sup>o</sup> Mid. Pane a wingd fig. w<sup>th</sup> a Glory holding an Escucheon w<sup>th</sup> these Arms 3 book quarter<sup>s</sup> Ermyne 3 barrs g. in y<sup>o</sup> last Pane, other imperfect words.

In y<sup>o</sup> 4 Window these Imperfect Words in like Capitals in y<sup>o</sup> lower Pannel

POP. EXO. AC. ERSO.

In y<sup>o</sup> middle Pannel an Angel Wingd Crownd holding a Shield thereon these Arms

Az. 3 fleur de Lis or quartering England.

In y<sup>o</sup> upp<sup>r</sup>. Pannel of this Window these Imperfect Words

DIONIS . . . ITIS. A ISIO

Under these Letters These 3 Portraitures. An Abbot in his Pontificalibus Mitred his lef<sup>t</sup> hand up to his Eye behind him a Monk Shorn & over him Stands an Executioner w<sup>th</sup> his Ax (ready to Strike y<sup>o</sup> Blow) over his head.

In the next Window (or 5 from the W) these Imperfect Words in the like [letters] viz<sup>t</sup> in y<sup>o</sup> low Pannel to y<sup>o</sup> W

IGA CLIST M L

In the middle Pannel of this Window Fig. of a Woman w<sup>th</sup> a Glory her right hand lifted up, a Book before her, a flower pot on her left.

In y<sup>o</sup>. upp<sup>r</sup> Pannel to the East these Imperfect Words

LATERE PERCVSSA

In the next Window or 6 from the W. these Imperfect Words in the low Pannel to the W

CLEMENTIS AIA

In the middle Pannel these Arms Cheque Az. & Or.

In the upper Pannel these Words

TEMPLI OSTENSIO.

In the next Window or 7th nothing.

In the next Window or 8 these Arms.

[A rough sketch shews three objects like tassels.]

In y<sup>e</sup> lower Window but one in the South Isle from the West The Portraiture of a Man praying w<sup>h</sup> a blew Mantle over his Shoulders & Glory ab<sup>t</sup>. his head.

In two of the other Pannels to the East are some broken Portraits of Men & Women.

In the S. Cross Isle.

In the middle Window to the West. Viz<sup>t</sup>. lower Window these Arms

Azure fretté Arg<sup>t</sup>. a Cheveron between three Mulletts Sable.

In the upper South Window to the East in Miniature the Portraits of 4 Saxon Kings with Glory ab<sup>t</sup>. their heads the two middlemost clothd in blew the other in yellow. Below the uppermost 2 of these Persons these Arms Gules 3 Crowns Or.

In the Middle S. Window Four Portraits like those in the upper Window.

In y<sup>e</sup> upper Window to the East in the South Isle behind the Choir France & England quarterd.

In the middle East Window of the Library Stands the Portrait of Abbot Kirkton as 'tis said and [under] him these Arms B. a Cross flory Or between 4 Lions ramp<sup>t</sup>. arg<sup>t</sup>.

Ed.

**922.—The Whittlesey Parish Registers.**—In 1880 a leaf from the Registers of St. Mary's Church, Whittlesey, in the Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire, was found by Mr. James Coleman, a Tottenham bookseller, amongst a bundle of parchments purchased by him in the ordinary course of his business. This leaf contained upwards of two hundred entries of Marriages solemnized in St. Mary's Church, between the years

1662 and 1672. Mr. Coleman very properly returned the original to the then Vicar of Whittlesey, and issued to a select number of subscribers, a small octavo pamphlet of eight pages, containing copies of these Marriage Registers. This pamphlet, a copy of which is preserved in the College of Arms, is now out of print, and very difficult to procure, but this is not to be regretted, as I find about one-third of the entries have been inaccurately transcribed. It is quite certain that the person employed by Mr. Coleman to copy the Register had a most imperfect acquaintance with the handwriting of the period, and very little experience generally in deciphering parochial records. The errors are not only numerous but in many places grotesque. By the courtesy of the Vicar of Whittlesey St. Mary's (Rev. Colin E. B. Bell, M.A.) I have been permitted to examine the original Register, in order that a more reliable copy may be printed. Every entry in the following transcript has been carefully collated. In a few instances where the parchment is worn, and in one or two places where the names have been carelessly written, I have furnished, in brackets, an alternate rendering, and have indicated in foot-notes, information gleaned from other parts of the Registers and from outside sources, which may give enlightenment on doubtful entries. In all cases of uncertainty I have added a note of interrogation.

From an examination of the Whittlesey Parish Registers I find that all those anterior to 1690 (with the exception of one thin folio volume) are in a most deplorable state, and have suffered sadly not only from neglect, but it is to be feared from wilful ill-usage by some irresponsible meddler. It would also appear that much of this wanton destruction has occurred within comparatively recent times, as in 1868 these Registers were examined by the Rev. W. D. Sweeting, M.A., (the editor of *Fenland Notes and Queries*), and his report, embodied in his *Parish Churches in the Neighbourhood of Peterborough*, is worthy of reproduction. In this delightful book, every page of which

contains a rich mine of antiquarian lore, he writes on page 99 :—“The oldest Register is dated 1560. For upwards of 100 years the Registers are unbound ; the detached leaves are much worn, and in most cases illegible. Very few pages are quite perfect. In some cases the damage seems to have been wilful, for the page dated 1611 is torn from top to bottom, and this has been done since 1827 for a MS. note by Edward Ground, the churchwarden of that date, is itself torn in half, and one half lost. The Baptisms from 1560 to 1594 are tolerably regular, but only a few entries can be made out. About 1562 the entries ceased to be made in Latin. The first legible Burial Register is 1590, after which it is continuous, except that a leaf of date 1606 is lost, and that there is only a small fragment between the dates 1654—64.”

Bad as their condition was 30 years ago, it is infinitely worse to-day. These early Registers now consist of about 36 loose fragments of portions of the parchment leaves—gall-stained, mildewed, moth-eaten—and almost wholly undecipherable. Not one page is perfect. There is a fragment containing Baptisms from 1560 to 1590 ; three torn leaves, badly damp-stained, on which can faintly be traced entries of Marriages in the years 1654 and 1655; and a portion of a leaf containing a few Marriages, in what appears to be the year 1679. The remaining 31 torn and decayed fragments have evidently been the Burial Register, commencing in 1563 and extending, with numerous gaps, to 1668. It would appear that at some period an attempt has been made to read the Registers by the indefensible practice of applying a chemical substance to the ink, in order to resuscitate it, with the result that whole pages have been completely obliterated.

From this wreckage I have transcribed such of the Marriage entries as can be deciphered, and also all those Marriages which appear in the thin folio volume. These latter are for the years 1683, 1688, 1689, 1690, 1691, 1692, 1693 and 1694.

Mount Pleasant,  
Liverpool, Nov., 1901.

HENRY PEET, F.S.A.

COPIES OF  
MARRIAGE REGISTERS

FROM

St. Mary's Church, Whittlesey, in the Isle of Ely, Cambs.,

1662—1672.

10 Day Edward Speechly and Elizabeth Speechly having been thrise published according to order were maryed in the psh church of St. Marys in Wittlesey

May 1662

1 Day John Beck & Mary Jues being thrise published at Corby in Lincolnshire as apears by a certificate under the hand of Edm. Halford,\* vic there were maryed in the psh church of St. Marys Wittlesey

June 1662

19. Robt. Andick & Elizabeth Pailin haveing been thrise Published at March in the Isle of Ely as apeares by a certificate under the hand of John Nelson Minister there were maryed in the psh Church of St Maryes Wittlesey.

July 1662

July 1 & 6 & 13. The Bands of Matrimony betweene Willm Clark widower & Sarah Allington singlewoman bothe of this psh & betweene Willm Bonner singleman & Francis Layton singlewoman both of this psh were thrise published in St. Marys psh Wittlesey

The Moore Register gave up July 15. 1662.

[Then follows in a different hand.]

1662

Ralphe Avelinge and Jone Smith marryed.....	Nov. 27
Richard Read and Margeret Atkinson.....	Jan. 3
William Jarmin & An Sturglye.....	Jan. 12
Robert Watson & Elizabeth Bassingham .....	Feb. 4
Patrick Curlick & Elizabeth Tinckler .....	Feb. 8
William Legard & Alice Langstroppe .....	Feb. 22
Adam Searle & Agnes Baldwine .....	Feb. 28
George Asline and Alice Houshould .....	Mar. 2
John Watson & Catherine Speechlye .....	Mar. 12

1663

Thomas Smith and Sara Booth.....	Aprill 22
John Ugden & An Carter .....	Maye 28
John Searle and Elizabeth Ground .....	June 29
William Searle & Marye Searle.....	July 2
Christopher Turner & Anne Beale .....	July 10
John Watson and Marye Weekes.....	Sep. 24
Laurence Andrewe & An Harris .....	Oct. 4
Robert Matson & Martha Waple .....	Oct. 5
Laurence Garner and Agnes Richar .....	Oct. 8
Robert Richman & Agnes Furlye.....	Oct. 10
William Paggit & Catherine Hardly .....	Oct. 13
Thomas Smith & Isabell Bradford .....	Oct. 28
Edwine Gates & Elizabeth Searle.....	Nov. 5
Edward Hemont and An Newman .....	Dec. 10
Thomas Davye and Elizabeth Cattell .....	Jan. 10
Thomas Searle and Sarah Raulins .....	Jan. 21
William Wilkinson and Marye Kelfull .....	Feb. 4

\* Edmund Halford, vicar in 1662.—*Corby Parish Registers.*

1664

Roger Gibbs and Margeret Margetts .....	Mar. 29
Henerye Smith & Elizabeth Hurry .....	April 24
James Boyce and Martha Garner.....	Maye 3
Humphry Rowland & Catherine Hull [Hall ?] .....	June 2
John Hobbs and Marye Winge.....	June 3
David Ferris aud Enina (?) Searle .....	June 16
John Davye and Alice Laxon .....	June 30
George Richardson & Jone Richar .....	July 8
Robert Spire & Elizabeth Warde .....	July 11
Thomas Boyce & Alice [name omitted] .....	Aug. 4
George Scott & An Asline .....	Aug. 4
John Johnson & Agnes Coles .....	Oct. 4
Anthonye Whaites & Marye Millington .....	Oct. 8
Robert Todwell & Jennit Feringe.....	Oct. 24
John Hemont & Marye Bray .....	Nov. 17
Henerye Searle & Jone Avelinge .....	Dec. 8
Robert Brockhurst & Rebecca Laxon .....	Dec. 27
John Charitye and An Love [Low ?] .....	Dec. 29
James Aveling & Marye Smith .....	Jan. 13
Robert Pawson & Rachell Ground .....	Feb. 2

1665

Edward Sanders & Agnes Darlye.....	April 2
Robert Searle & Agnes Elmar .....	April 3
Thomas Richardson & Ellinor Wanewright .....	April 4
Ralphe Bradford & Agnes Pix .....	April 30
Robert Walsham & Marye Bremwell .....	May 16
Thomas Noble & Briggett Lee .....	June 20
George .....	[page torn]
Henry Wildbore (?) & .....	
Henry Corbye & Agnes Lee (?) .....	
William Sechell and Jane Manning.....	
J..... Forbee and Frances Houshold .....	Nov.....
John Bradford & An Robson.....	Dec.....
Robert Dost* (?) & Isabell Searle.....	
Thomas Levens and Alice Davye.....	Jan.....
Robert Sanderson and Maudling Ward .....	Jan.....
Henery Ground & Anna Martin .....	Feb.....
Henry Hemont & Margerye Sudberry .....	Feb.....
William Wilson & Duglas Mason .....	March ...
Thomas Hawson & Margeret Marshall .....	Jan.....

1666

Oliver Mathees & Ellinor Plumer .....	April 23
George Snell and Catherine Underwood.....	April 23
George Burnham and Catherine Plumer.....	Maye 22
William Speechlye and Annis Layton.....	Maye.....
Francis Morebye & Dorothe Stock.....	June 4
Richard Lewen and Margeret Inman .....	July 10
Thomas Spriggen and Ellin Cash .....	July 25
Christopher Cooper & An Kisbye.....	Sep. 10
Ralphe Hopton & Isabell Bran .....	Sep. 20
John Black and Ellinor Baldwine .....	Sep. 23
Jefferye Speechlye & Anna Hemont.....	Oct.....
William Ground & Elizabeth Wright .....	Oct. 18
Robert Searle & Mary Taylor .....	Nov.....
George Watson & Grace Tanslye .....	Nov. 13
William Rolt & Jane Samon .....	Jan.....
John Guttridge and Alice Robinet .....	Feb.....
Thomas Sharp & Jone Richar .....	Feb. 17

\* This name is indistinct. The burial of Isabell Dust is recorded in 1686, Nov. 4.



923.—**Lovejoy Family.**—The undersigned, compiling a genealogy of the Lovejoy family throughout the world, desires correspondence with any English kinsmen of the name. Instances of interest, extracts from church registers, wills, court rolls, printed books, heralds' visitations, all thankfully received and courteously acknowledged.

Niagara Falls,  
New York, U.S.A.

D. ROSS LOVEJOY, B.Sc.

924.—**The Drainage of the Great Level (No. 4).**—*The Ring of Waldersea and Coldham.*—The drainage of the manors of Waldersea and Coldham has engaged the attention of the owners for centuries. The fine old manor house of Coldham indicated that they resided on the spot, where there was good winter ground for their cattle. The rivers flowed freely on to the Creek till the junction of the Great and Little Ouse, made about A.D. 1270, by a cut from Littleport Chayre, changed the current of the Old Welney River, which theretofore had flowed to the Nene outfall, just as it changed the flow of Westwater which had been a branch of the Ouse carrying that stream to Benwick and by the Old Nene to Wisbech, and left it a drain flowing from Ramsey Mere to Erith. The natural drainage system of the Fenland was disturbed. Plant-water would follow the flow of the Old Nene at March, and so become tributary to the Ouse, leaving only Old South Eau to stagnate at Guyhirn. This accounts for the decay at Wisbech outfall.

In 1329, a Northamptonshire jury made a presentment against Walter de Langetun,\* bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, who had, some 28 years past, erected a dam in the Nene at Outwell for the better draining of his manor of Coldham, whereby Borough and Thorney Fens were drowned. At the subsequent hearing of the indictment against the Bishop, the jury found that Coldham manor, by reason of the dam, was £40 a year the better, but that Borough fen, Deeping fen,

\* Bp. 1295 to 1321.

and Spalding fen, and lands in Huntingdonshire, from Aylington to Muscote, were drowned. Moreover the navigation from Bishop's Lynn to Peterborough was obstructed, and vessels with timber, wool, reed, turf, stone, fish, and herrings had to go a long way about by Old Wellen Ea and Littleport, so that victuals at Holme, Yaxley, and Peterborough were the dearer,\* and the lords of the fens and their tenants damnified. The King sent his mandate to the sheriff to pull the Bishop's dam down.

The owners of Coldham had to manage their estate so as not to damnify their neighbours. The Ring was embanked, and its position so isolates it from the Fenland that it affords a separate undertaking for the drainer.† The strangers and foreigners who overruled the plans of the Commissioners of Sewers by new devices, introduced their mills, which were soon adopted by the owner of Coldham. Between 1570 and 1580, George Carlton,‡ governor of Wisbech Castle, owner of lands in Coldham and in the fens, erected here and there a mill or engine, introduced by a Netherlander, Peter Morrice. This seems to be the first use made of mills for draining the fens. In 1570, the inventor petitioned for a patent to protect his mills for 21 years, "except against all such devices heretofore in use in this Realm and in Holland and Flanders." His petition states:—

"Peter Morrice yor poore orator hath to his extreme charge and with like payne travell and industrie endevoid to make divers engins and instruments by motion whereof running streames and springes may be drawn farr higher then ther naturall levills or course and also dead waters very likely to be drayned from the depths into other passages whereby the ground under them will prove firm and so moche the more fertill which thing if it come to perfection will be a most high and great comoditie to the subjects of all the partes of this realme."§

\* Plac. cor. Reg: 5 E. 3. Trin. Rot. 12. This was not the first dam at Well. See Pat. 17. E. 2, Pt. 1 m. 61. Lords' Journal, 30 Jan., 1562. The Bill that the Bp. of Ely may depart with the manor of Waltersea to a common person to maintain the water banks. In 1647 the Bishop's interest in the manor of Waltersea was sold to John Friennes for £479 19s. 7d.

† The Ring is not included in the Bedford Level Act of 1663.

‡ 1542. Grant for life to George C., for his services to Prince Edward, of the Cell of Spinney and Manor of Wicken and Soham, and the fishing of Soham Mere and 40 acres of marsh in the fen-end of Wisbech. Carlton's Drain, alongside the Nene outfall, is marked on the old fen maps. In 1575, Charles Balam, heir of Robert Balam, held the manor of Coldham under the Bp. of Ely. There is a suit against Bp. Cox for neglecting to repair Waldersea bank, whereby the manor was drowned. Dom. Eliz., 105, 88.

§ Dom. Eliz., vol. 106, 62.

Morrice's specification is vague. There were other mills in the market. In 1571, Sir Thos. Golding, of Powles Sellchamp, Essex, who "had obtained the perfect knowledge and meane how to drayne marshes and lowe groundes" was licensed for 21 years to have the sole right to make and use his engine as described.\* This mill was at once a watermill, and a corn mill and a waterworks, to lay dry all places drowned, to grind and work continually, to carry water by great abundance into towns, "and which engine being once made shall continue in working without man's labor." He deposited no drawing of this device; no doubt it was very much like the Dutch mill, with its alarming sails. Mr. Carlton adopted Morrice's mill, but these "gewgaws," as they were soon dubbed, so alarmed the fen man that he found it difficult to hire labourers to erect them and keep them going. Maybe the "engine" presaged the advent of the "undertaker," and the inclosure of the commons, for in 1580,† the Lords of the Council admonished the Bishop of Ely and other Justices in the Isle: "to be aiding in providing and taking up of workmen at convenient wages in those partes to George Carlton and Humfrey Michell esquires the assignees of the patent of Peter Morrice for draining fennes and lowe groundes surrounded with waters by certain engines and devises never knowen or used before, which being put in practice are like to prove verie commodious and beneficiall unto the Realme, so that the worke begon may be finished wch are said to be now greatlie hindered for want of workmen and labourers."†

Those who should have welcomed the mill resented its introduction. The articles exhibited against John Walpole,‡ gentleman, and William Stowe, yeoman, concerning "the ingen lately overthrowen upon sea banks in Holbich" afford an insight into the history of the mill.

\* 1571. Pat. 13 Eliz., Pt. 9. Dom. Eliz., vol. 127, 57.

† Acts of P. C., June 26, 1580.

‡ Dom, Eliz., vol. 219, 73; undated. The Walpoles had land at Pinchbeck and Spalding. They bear the same armorials as the Earl of Oxford.

John Walpolle. first that John Walpolle should saye to Mr. Hunston of Walsoken that if Mr. Carlton did set up anye of his Ingens by Satterday bridge in Holbich he would cut them downe.

Item the said Walpolle procured a great number of the inhabitants of Whaplode Drove ffenne to complain without cause unto the Justices at the last Sessions holden at Spalding against the said Carlton in clamorous maner alledginge that the said Carlton w<sup>th</sup> his Ingen had throwen out so much water from his owne grounde into the river of Holbiche as when the sea sluice could not deliver y<sup>t</sup> to the sea, y<sup>t</sup> returned to the ffenne and so drowned the same.

Item to prove this true, he also sent a messenger by a token unto Robte Pulvertofte of Whaplode gentleman praying him for his sake to joyne with the said inhabitants in the said complainte wch he refused to doe.

Willm Stowe. Item y<sup>t</sup> Willm Stowe not longe before Chrisade\* last talking w<sup>th</sup> the said Mr. Pulvertoft of theis Ingens said that Mr. Carlton had set up certeine Guegawes in the countrey (meaning the Ingens) and with all said, Can I not finde a madd knave that will cutt one of them downe in a night.

Item the said Stowe uppon Christes day last having noe cause at all after prayer was ended in the church of Holbich called the dikereeves of that towne unto him, and ther in the Church said he marveyled y<sup>t</sup> they would suffer Toyes to be set up uppon the sea banke to let the sea com in, and not pull them downe. And therewith all with seditious tearms departed the Church as greatlie greeved, saying to the people come and see and so drawinge therby manye about him he led them unto the Towne bridge there exclaminge in foule words and tearmes against Mr. Carlton and the Ingens saying that he would spend all his land uppon Mr. Carlton and the dikereeves because they suffered such Toyes to be set up, at which wourds when he sawe none of the people take his parte, but were offended with him by soe saying he went his waye.

Item y<sup>t</sup> came to passe in the second night after, the Ingen y<sup>t</sup> stood uppon the sea having a beame in the water wourke, that bore the most part of the frame, standing uppon y<sup>t</sup> conteinge about vij tunne of tymber was cut underneath in the myddle halfe asunder, saving one quarter of an ynch. And the next morning when the kepor thereof went to let her sayles goe, went up into her toppe to oyle her going geare for that end the north east wind blew from the sea and brake the said beame in the place so cutt and threwe downe bothe man and fframe.

The mills were in the wrong position. If a mill is placed at the outlet of a main drain to keep the water low so that the district drained may fall into it, the mill is valuable, though variable as the wind; but by placing mills at a distance from the outfall of a district, the water is forced up into a drain with banks of oozy earth, unretentive of water above the surface of the land. Mr. Carlton perceived that his mills must fail without a clear outfall to the sea. In 1579, he memorialised the P. Council to direct the Bishop of Ely and the Commissioners of Sewers "to sett downe a law y<sup>t</sup> ye River of Wisbich may be clensed dyked and scoured from

\* Christmas. The Puritan form. Christide also occurs: Mass was deemed popish.

Guyhurne Crosse unto ye sea and y<sup>t</sup> ye same lawe be exequuted with spede, as also to see yf any nearer way to ye sea may be had then now ys through any parte of ye marshes lying towards ye sea and amendyng ye annoyaunces of ye Creeke of ye marshes beyng sylted up.”\*

Dutch Mills were set up about the fens, but were not numerous till 1678, when they were adopted by the Bedford Level Corporation for scouring the drains. It is obvious that a mill may be a common nuisance by driving water into a drain without a sufficient fall to remove it rapidly. Neighbours' lands were drowned. Petitions and presentments against unauthorised mills were common. In 1699, Green's Mill, near Slade Lode, Chatteris, was presented and ordered to be removed. Owners did not always comply with such orders. In 1703, Silius Tytus, of Ramsey Abbey, failed in a suit for an injunction to restrain the Corporation from removing his mill. Some of the old fen mills have a special history; that of Tydd St. Giles, set up about 1618, caused a good deal of contention about the “acre-shot.”† At Tydd, where the “better sort” who farmed the high ground had to use boats to serve their cattle in winter, they made humble suit to the Commissioners to provide them with an artificial water engine at the charge of all the occupiers, high ground and black land alike, thus subjecting the farmers of fen ground to an improvement tax by way of conjecture. In 1610 they put down their objections thus:—

“ffirst the fee simple of the high grounds will give by the acre to be sold x<sup>li</sup>., but the fenne grounds will not give x groutes.

2ndly the high grounds will give by the acre to be letten yearely x<sup>s</sup>., the fenne ground but iiij<sup>d</sup>.

3rdly the high grounds may be drayned to receive profitt w<sup>th</sup>in one moneth, the fenne grounds cannot be drayned to receive profitt under vij yeares.”

\* Dom. Eliz., 131, 48.

† See Vol. I., Art. 157, for Mr. Egar's note on Fen Pumps, and the removal of this old mill.

These differences were not reconciled till 1618, when the Commissioners made the following decree, adjusting the cost of providing the mill to the benefit to be derived from its use:—

At a generall Session of Sewers at Stilton the xi daye  
 A<sup>o</sup> Dom. of Marche in the yeere of the raigne of our Sov<sup>r</sup>aigne Lord  
 1618. James by the grace of God Kinge of England ffrance and  
 Ireland defender of the ffaith the xvii<sup>th</sup> and of Scotland  
 the 1<sup>st</sup>. Before Sir ffrancis ffane Knight, S<sup>r</sup> Miles Sanders K<sup>t</sup> and barronett,  
 Sir Oliver Cromwell K<sup>t</sup>, Sir Rob<sup>t</sup> Bevell K<sup>t</sup>, Sir Anthony fforest K<sup>t</sup>, S<sup>r</sup>  
 Humfrey Orme K<sup>t</sup>, Henry Cromwell jun<sup>r</sup>, Henry Cromwell sen<sup>r</sup>, Sinolphus  
 Bell, Everard Buckworth, Richard Colvile, Rob<sup>t</sup> Audeley, Thomas Parke,  
 Henry Kervill and Rob<sup>t</sup>. Butler, Esquirs., Peter Edwards Eusabey and  
 Thomas Glapthorne gent<sup>s</sup>, Commissioners of Sewers amongst others  
 assigned It is ordered enacted and decreed as followeth viz:—

Whereas the sewers for the toune of Tydd S<sup>t</sup> Gyles in the Isle of Ely  
 lyinge in a lower levell then their Outfalls cannot naturally avoide their  
 waters into the same whereby their grounds doe remaine surrounded  
 yearely for a very large space to the very great detryment losse and  
 hinderance of the sayd Touneshippe as by their complaints to the Com-  
 missioners of Sewers most plainly appeareth. It is therefore enacted  
 ordeyned decreed and for a lawe sett doune at the humble suite and  
 petition of the landholders ffarmers inhabitants and comoners there for  
 the more speedey conveyinge awaye of the sayd waters from the sayd  
 sewers and surrounded grounds and the better dreyninge of their highe  
 ground That an Artificial Water Engine or Myll wherby the sayd waters  
 maye bee rayسد and cast forth into the sayd outfalls shall forthwith bee  
 framed builded and perfected to bee placed for the best advantage for the  
 sayd purpose at or neere Dikeland Dam and that the sayd Engine with all  
 dames dytches and other workes fytt and convenyent for the use thereof  
 shalbe made erected placed and perfected at the only charge and cost of  
 the landholders ffarmers and inhabitants of Tydd aforesaid And to that  
 ende and purpose It is also ordered and decreed that 140 acres one roode  
 and twenty perches in Hallcroft feilde and of the which xxij acres belong-  
 ing to the see of Ely is exempted for y<sup>t</sup> it cannot drayne that waye; xvij  
 acres and a halfe in Doddington feilde; xxi acres in Blodgeade feilde; lxij  
 acres in Spadeholme feilde; xlvij acres and one roode in Layesoken; xix  
 acres and xx perches in Cardyke; lxxj acres in great Broadcast; xxvij acres  
 in Little Broadcast; xij acres in Gores; cxxix acres in Sowthecrofte feilde;  
 clx acres and one roode in Somerlezew feilde; cxxxv acres in Newfeilde;  
 lxxxvi acres in Sowthfeilde, cxxxv acres in Edykefeild; xij acres in  
 Bladewicke; cxxix acres in Hornefeilde; lxvi acres in Corkleyfeilde; xliij  
 acres in ffendyke feilde shalbe taxed and assessed for raysnge monyes by  
 distresse and sale &c. if neede bee for supportinge the charges of buildinge,  
 rearinge, fframinge, perfectinge, maintayning, keepinge, repayringe, amend-  
 inge, and susteyninge, of the sayd Engine, and all things thereunto bel-  
 onginge proporcionably accordinge to the valewe of the sayd land and not  
 otherwise from tyme to tyme soe often as it shalbe requisite: And like-  
 wyse that two able and sufficient men shalbe yerely heereafter chosen by  
 the inhabitants of the sayd towne in manner and forme as in other townes  
 therabouts is used who shalbe called Milreeves and shall duringe their  
 tyme that they shall enjoye the said office have the custody chardge over-  
 sight and government of the sayd Myll and be payde for the mayntayninge  
 repayringe and uphouldinge thereof by acreshotte to be taxed uppon the  
 sayd lands by the agreement and consent of those whome the same shall  
 concerne or the greater number thereof and to be levied by warrant from

the Comiss<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers as often as occasion shall require And that Robert Wyllsey and . . . . shalbe myllreeves for this presente yeere who shall have warrant from the Comiss<sup>rs</sup> for levyng jointly or severally all somes of money by them or either of them disbursed or necessaryley to be disbursed in and concerning the premises by acreshott taxed and assessed.\*

Nich<sup>s</sup> Massye cl.

When Mr. Carlton died, in 1591, his interest in Coldham was sold to Mr. John Hunt, of London, who had been advised by one Mostart that it was possible to drain it. Mostart also planned a new mill, which he in 1592 described as octangular, "un engin tel que par cy devant n'a esté veu en ce royaume," and one was constructed and ready to be erected. He was so sure of success that he had brought his family to England, and meant to settle in the fens where his undertaking "par avonture servira pour une ouverture et encouragement a entreprendre le sechement general de toutes les fennes chose bien faisable et plus prouffitable que l'on ne pourroit croire."† But Alderman John Hunt seems to have sunk some money in the fens, for in 1606, Francis Tyndall, Henry Farre, and John Cooper came to the rescue with an Act of Parliament. 4 James I., chapter 13, was an "Act for the draining of certain fennes and lowe grounds within the Isle of Ely subject to hurte by surroundinge, conteyning above 6000 acres, compassed aboute with certain banks commonly called the Ring of Waldersey and Coldham." This, the first Act relating to a special drainage district, was not superseded till the reign of George IV. The Ring is described as the land "within a bank beginning at Keekes Mill and thence to Tower House and thence to Hobbs House and so to Tilney Hurne and thence by Maries dam and so by Elme Leame to Friday Bridge and thence by Redmore Dyke and Begdale and so by Gold Dyke to Keekes Mill again."‡

L. G.

\* Add. Ch. 33, 103.

† Dom. Eiiiz., vol. 241, 114.

‡ In December, 1612, the Privy Council notified the Commissioners of a petition lodged by the assigns of Francis Tindall. The "country" had asserted their rights by cutting sundry new banks which were a common nuisance to the fens. Reformation of this notorious abuse and arrest of the offenders was directed. Coldham Ring is distinguishable from private drainage districts within the Great Level, of which Had-denham Level, formed in 1726, was the first.

**925.—Wanty Family of Thorney.**—The family of Vantier, Wantier, Wantie, or Wanty, were amongst the French speaking Hollanders, or Huguenots, who settled at Thorney. From the year 1750 to the present time I have a fairly complete record ; but anterior to that date I can get but fragmentary notices of the family. In 1751 John Wanty, of Thorney Fen, died. He had three children who survived him :—(1) Nancy, who married (*a*) . . . . Usille, and (*b*) John Pank ; (2) John ; (3) Benjamin, who married Ann Baker, and had three children baptised at Crowland, Henry, 1753, John, 1754, and Jacob, 1756. In perusing some of the old Deeping Fen Books, in the custody of Mr. Ashley Maples, of Spalding, I came across this entry :—

Indenture dated April 18th, 1700, between certain Adventurers of the one part and Hon. Charles Bertie, Sir John Shaw, and others, of the other part . . . . “The said Adventurers transfer to them the following forfeited Lands, viz. the Lands of John Wanty, of March, forfeited for £14 9s. 4d. Were added to the old Estate of 220 acres as first laid out.”

Can any correspondent assist me to trace this family ? or suggest any source to which I can apply ? I have access to a copy of the French Register at Thorney Abbey ; but it is during the period after that Register ceases that my information fails. I want to cover from 1650 to 1750, and more particularly the latter half of that period. Are there any Manorial Court Rolls to which reference can be made ? In 1751 John Wanty devised lands in Fleet Fen, and in Gedney, to his children. I have some slight evidence which leads me to think that the early Wantys were engaged in the Drainage Works of the Great Level under Vermuyden.

Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.

H. PEET, F.S.A.

The only entries in our Indexes to this family give Daniel Wantey in the Train Band at Whittlesey, 1716 (Vol. II., p. 334) ; and Catherine Holmes, wife of Jacob Wantié, one of the sponsors at the baptism of Daniel Eggar, who was born



11 Dec., 1698 (Vol. III., p. 372). Have the wills in the Peculiar Court of Thorney, now in the District Registry at Peterborough, been searched? ED.

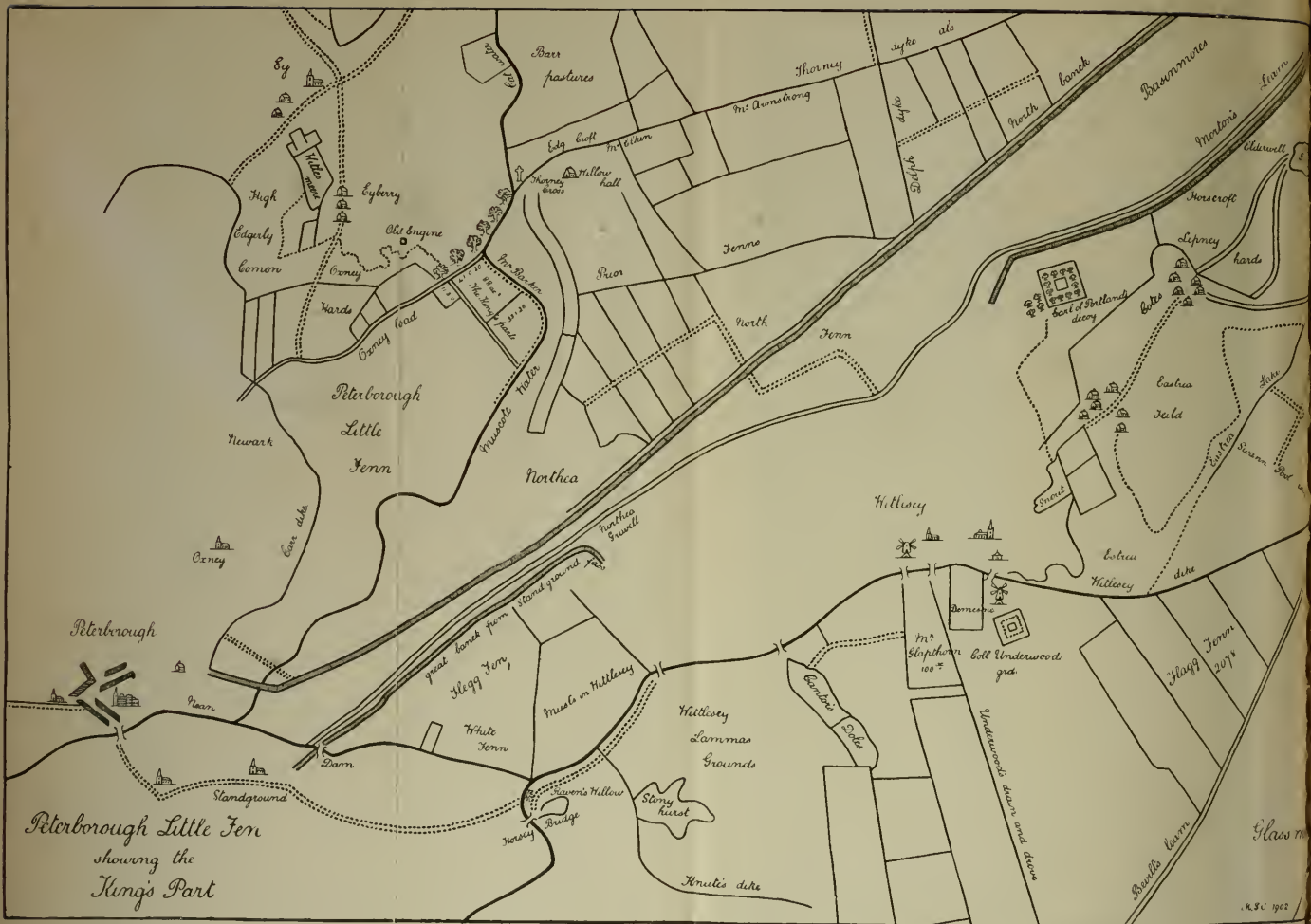
**926.—Fenland Deposits.**—In *The Spalding Guardian* of 14 Sept., 1901, is given an abstract of an important and interesting lecture given at a Meeting of the Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union at Spalding, by the Rev. E. Adrian Woodruff Peacock, F.L.S., F.G.S., M.C.S. Our readers will be glad to have the opportunity of perusing this, and we accordingly transfer it to our pages.

By the aid of diagrams the lecturer showed how in the early ages the present soil of the Fens had been deposited by rivers which are now non-existent, and which had their sources in the West of England, the area of peat and silt thus brought down extending from Greetwell, in Lincolnshire on the north, to Quy-cum-Stow in Cambridgeshire on the south, a distance of about 74 miles. The depth cut down by this ancient river system was from 1,000 to 2,000 feet. As the upper chalk was missing in this county, and the levels were not the same as formerly, it was impossible to be precise. In the Ice Age, the whole of the fenland basin was practically covered with boulder clay. It was said to be 400 feet thick at Boston. For the most part it was covered by fenland deposits, but Mr. Peacock showed a map with no less than seventeen islands of boulder clay, capped in many cases with gravel, appearing above the fen deposits. He emphasised the fact that the whole of the fenland soil including that of the marshes had been brought from inland and not from the sea, and illustrated the point by producing a piece of boulder clay he had that day picked up at Crowland, and which contained stones only natural to Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. The formation of silt was due to sand brought down by the fenland rivers and cast up by the sea against a bank raised by man, the lighter particles of the sand being carried away by the wash of the waves. When the bank was from fourteen to fifteen feet above low water mark, marsh samphire began to grow, when the surface was just lowered at neaptides. It disappeared again when the level of the soil was 16 feet above low water mark, or 2 feet above ordinary spring tides. The samphire from that point was gradually replaced by grass. Both the samphire and grasses acted as a strainer for the muddy tidal water, and gradually filtered out the fine silt to a higher and yet higher level. At last only the highest spring tides could fully cover the marsh which was formed. Samphire beds turned into coarse grass beds in about 10 years, but 20 to 30 should be allowed to pass over for the roots and decayed vegetable matter to fill the ground with those rich organic deposits which make the soil good. Moulton Marsh, inclosed in 1875, was 770 yards from the old bank to the sea after a growth of 38 years. In some parts of the foreshore, the inclosures had followed too rapidly, carried on by men who did not understand silt formation. The ground was poor sandy loam instead of rich silt. As the few rivers and not the sea, supplied the whole of the mud for the silt, enclosing good foreshore could only go on at a certain fixed rate. How the peat was most quickly formed was explained. In 1651, the Earl of Cromarty went to a plain about half-a-mile round, in the parish

of Lockbroom, high above the sea level. Here he found a dead wood of fir trees, which had died of age. In 1666 he visited the spot again, "and he could not see so much as a tree, but in the place thereof, the whole bounds where the wood had stood was covered with green moss. They said none could pass over, because the scurf of the bog would not support them. I must needs try it, and fell in to the armpits, but was immediately pulled out." Before the year 1669 the whole forest place was turned into a common moss, and the Earl saw the country people digging turf and peat for firing. Peat mosses were known to make the skins of animals tough, and in a manner to tan them. A great number of animal and other matters had been found in a wonderful state of preservation. In June, 1747, in a peat bog in Lincolnshire, the body of a woman was found six feet deep. Her hair and nails were unaltered, and her skin was tanned, and remained soft, strong, and pliable. From the antique sandals on her feet, she appeared to the observers of that day to have been a Roman lady or one of their æra in Britain. One of her hands and sandals were sent to the Royal Society by Mr. Stovin. After the lecture, Dr. Perry showed a sandal from the Isle of Axholme, in the Spalding Gentlemen's Society's collection, and a drawing of it in the minute books as it originally came into the Society's possession, for time had somewhat injured it, being the identical sandal taken from the body referred to by the lecturer.

In conclusion, Mr. Peacock referred to the richness of the Fen soils, which he said were good enough for sheep in summer, whether peat or silt, but poor winter ground. One turnip grown on chalk or limestone had more food in it than two grown on peat. As peat was five times richer in nitrogen than either of these soils, the best dressing for peat was either of them. He advised that chalk or Lincolnshire limestone should be broken up about the size of road metal, and applied as heavily as the pocket would allow. One benefit of this dressing was it lasted for a life time. The silt required lime in a more active state, and he gave an instance which he had seen, where quicklime was used by tons per acre, the result being that the crop was laid while in flower. From 5 to 10 cwt. per acre, applied as often as possible in autumn, followed by a spring dressing of good cake manure, could not be beaten by the finest artificials ever made. As this lime cost 14 or 15 shillings a ton, the cost was not out of the way. A manure drill was the best means of applying it. Mr. Peacock pointed out the double danger of powerful nitrate manures. The function, first and only, of nitrogen was making plant growth. In the peat there was more than sufficient nitrogen as it decayed under farming operations, and the silt was very rich in it. The difficulty of both soils was that available bases were scarce in proportion to their richness, therefore add lime in one form or another. For seed as in growing wheat, barley, and oats, avoid nitrogen manures altogether—lime and superphosphates were required. The latter should be used as a starter and food for root crops, and for potatoes along with potash manures. One danger of using nitrogen manures, like nitrate of soda, was that it killed off and stopped the action for the time of the nutrifying soil bacteria, which were the farmer's greatest friends. A dressing which in a wet season was safe simply ruined the crop in a dry one. Manuring on peat and silt should tend to make the seed finer and richer in quality, like "the topland growth." Good cake-fed "yard muck" was the best soil dressing, but it had one defect for "topland," they could not get enough of it from the limited quantity of straw their soil grew. Firstly, it was the most natural manure there was, and, secondly, cost nothing except mowing and carriage, and it was a by-product of cattle raising and feeding.





Peterborough Little Fen  
 showing the  
 Kings Part

927.—**Borough Little Fen.**—In 1637 King Charles granted to Sir Edward Savage and Mr. Edmund Wyndham a lease of 12,000 acres of fen land in the Great Level of the Earl of Bedford's undertaking. Some 6350 acres thereof, which lay in Yaxley Fen, the Alderlands, Stanground, Sawtry Fen, Fasset Fen, the severals of Lady Westmorland, in Burrough Little Fen, South Pingle, Northey, Borough Great Fen, Glasmore Fen, Whittlesey, Flegg and Whittlesey North Fen and Priors Fen, were rented at £2703 13s. 4d. a year. In 1640 no rent had been paid and the lessees were out of pocket £1092.\* This unsatisfactory state of the business was attributed to disturbance of possession by intruders. Borough Little Fen was a common, depastured by the cattle of the inhabitants of Peterborough and the hamlets of Dost-thorp, Estfield, Newark, Oxney, Allerton, and Fletton, with about 1000 commoners, who had all along opposed "the Undertakers," who in 1619 proposed that "Lyttle burrow fen being all subject to surrounding and a great part thereof not worth above xvi<sup>d</sup> per acre *communibus annis* we require for or towards our charges and industry of dreyning thereof ye third part to be decreed to us in one entire part with fitt wayes to and from ye same."† This offer was met by the finding of a jury "that the Little Fenne conteining by estimacon 500 acres whereof we reckon to be hards and fleetes of water 200 acres and the other 300 acres to be worth to be let by the acre in severals yerely viii<sup>s</sup>."

It was not easy to keep the cattle off the King's Part, which consisted of 88 acres of the hards. The misdoings of these intruders were general throughout the Level, and Sir Edward brought many before the Court of Sewers "for contemptuously intruding upon his Ma<sup>ties</sup> grounds, putting and keeping their cattle thereunto and mowing the grounds," and the Court adjudged and decreed that the delinquents should pay fines, some ten pounds, some twenty, and be committed to prison.

\* Inquis. Dec. 14, 1640.

† Sess. of Sewers, Dec. 14, 1619.

not to be delivered till such fines were paid.\* The look-out of Sir Edward's undertaking was improving when the misdoings of the Scotsmen and the consequent call to arms of the loyalists employed Sir Edward far away from the Level, and left the commoners and their cattle to feed in the King's part.

Few of the King's adherents can have suffered more in the Royal Cause than Sir Edward, who relates the story of the loss of his estate, the loss of a limb in battle, and a long imprisonment, in his petition to Charles II. in 1665, when the brave Knight was "reduced to the extremity of want and misery and almost ready to perish." And the Duke of Albemarle† moved his Majesty on behalf of "this old servant and great sufferer whose distressed condition was too evident."

To the Kings most Excellent Majestie

The humble peticon of Sir Edward Savage Knt.

Yor Majties Servant

Sheweth.

That yo<sup>r</sup> peticoner having been a most faithful servant to yo<sup>r</sup> Majtie and to yo<sup>r</sup> Royal Father of glorious memory for the space of 42 years now last past and continueing still in yo<sup>r</sup> Maties service yo<sup>r</sup> peticoner in the raigne of yo<sup>r</sup> said Royall Father engaged himself in noe lesse then £5000 for the said late Maties service and paid interest thereof for many yeares and the said principall afterwards wch his Maties Commrs expended in ye prosecution of ye Commission of Depopulations‡ about the space of five years togeather whereby his late Majtie had above £60,000 paid into his Exchequer as by the account there appeares, and order was given thereby for setting up of 1000 farmes and many Churchmen being by the said depopulations undone were restored againe to their dutie and revenues of their livings with the prayer of thousands of his poor subjects for giving them employment thereby and removing that bane of all husbandry wch has destroyed whole villages and townes; for wch service yo<sup>r</sup> peticoner had promise of ample reward but never received any by the intervencon of the war and before ye late warrs yo<sup>r</sup> peticoner freely gave £1000 of his estate towards ye repaire of St. Pauls Church.§ Yo<sup>r</sup> peticoner also engaged himselfe to borrow £500 which he lent yo<sup>r</sup> Majties father at the beginning of the warrs as appeareth by a tally struck thereof in the Excheqr. besides y<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> peticoner disbursed and lost neer £10,000 in dividing enclosing and improveing of 10,000 acres of land allotted to yo<sup>r</sup> Royall Father out of the Great Levell of ye ffenns wch was by him let to yo<sup>r</sup> peticoner for yeares wch are run out in these times wherein he hath been wholly dispossessed and the lands now let to others. Yo<sup>r</sup> Majties

\* Dom. Car. I., Vol. 463, 46.

† General George Monk.

‡ In 1632 a commission was issued for inquiry touching depopulations and conversion of arable land to pasture since 10 Eliz. The proceedings were based on the Tillage Statutes of Henry VIII. Depopulators were fined large sums, e.g., Lord Brudenel for extending his park and enclosing part of 2 farms was fined £1,000.

§ Paul's money. King Charles in 1637 undertook the restoration of the western porch of St. Paul's Cathedral at his own charge, and assigned all fines in ecclesiastical causes towards the repair of the fabric which was then very insecure. Hollar's admirable engravings have preserved an image of the church and of its extraordinary monuments.

Royall ffather was pleased to bestowe upon yor peticoner ye revercon for life of the Surveyor's office of the Court of Wards being taken away without any recompence to yor peticoner. After yor peticoner become first a prisoner in ye warrs yor Royall Father bestowed on him the makeing of an English baronett\* seeming troubled he had nothing then else to give him wch never yet turned to yor peticoners proffitt By all wch and yor peticoners utter losse of all his estate in ye late warrs to the value of about £40,000, many great wounds received in ye warrs and the use of his right hand thereby utterly taken away and suffered eight yeares imprisonment as a prisoner of warr wherein yor peticoner had starved had he not bene preserved by the charitable bounty of ffrriends, all your peticoners owne estate being violently taken from him to the vallue aforesaid for the constant loyalty to yor Maj<sup>tie</sup> and yor Royall Father whereby yor peticoner (if not relieved) must now spend the remainder of his aged dayes in much misery and want;

May it therefore please yor Maj<sup>tie</sup> in tender consideracon of the premises and of the sad condicon of yor peticoner to bestowe on him something for his present subsistence as yor Maj<sup>tie</sup> shall think fitt until he can find out some suite to yor Maj<sup>tie</sup> for his future maintenance wch if he might receive yor Maj<sup>tie</sup>'s pardon for asking it he humbly prayes his future maintenance might be provided for out of your Revenue in Wales in such proporcon as yor Maj<sup>tie</sup> shall think fitt.

And yor peticoner shall ever pray &c.

The aged Cavalier was assisted with a grant of £300 out of the Privy Purset† in July, 1666, and he was promised the Wardership of the Fleet prison, "the King wishing to gratify the peticoners ancient loyalty and services," but this involved him in a contest with Sir Jeremy Whichcott, who had a patent for that office.

The King's 10,000 acres‡ in the Great Level were sold for the benefit of the Commonwealth, but were restored to the Crown in 1663, when the Corporation of the Bedford Level was established.

L. G.

### 928.—The Drainage of the Great Level (No. 5).—

*Popham's Eau.*—When Captain Thomas Lovell in 1570 failed to carry through Parliament a Bill for an Act to authorise his scheme for the draining of the Fens, he was comforted by letters patent of Queen Elizabeth "for boggering turf and peat to make it serviceable to burn for fewell whereby great store

\* This was a favourite recompense for State service. This dignity was sometimes worth £3,000, the "benefits" now and then had to be recovered in a suit at law, after the dignity was conferred.

† Entry Book 18, p. 260.

‡ The King's share was originally 12,000 acres out of the 95,000 acres set out for the Earl of Bedford and the participants, but 2,000 acres were granted to the Earl of Portland, who retired to Whittlesey during the Commonwealth, and whiled the time away by forming a decoy for fen-fowl. (See the Plan.)

of wood and coales shall be saved and spared.”\* Other would-be undertakers for the inning of marshes clamoured for patents for Dutch mills and devices for drifts to take water-fowl. No one was prepared with any plan to effect the general draining of the Great Level.†

The Captain devoted his skill under a decree of the Commissioners of Sewers made at Spalding to effect the drainage of Deeping Fen, an area which has never been brought into the drainage system of the Great Level. His plans failed through the defects of the outfall of the Welland, and afterwards Thomas, Earl of Exeter, endeavoured to make them effectual by conveying Westlode and Deeping Fen waters by sluices and tunnels at Cowbit, under the Welland, into South Holland, works which so diverted the volume of water that below Spalding there was no river at all, and at a View made in the year 1618, it happened that a waterman, whose boat was in the channel of the Welland, came with horses and a cart to carry it seaward. The result of the Earl's works was that a river, which in former ages flowed with a part of the Nene through Crowland to Spalding, at the end of the 16th century brought water to the Isle of Ely. This aggravated the condition of the fenman, who complained in 1590 that “We live in sharp penury and the laboured and poor old folkes and children go on begging and very many have died this last year for want of food.” It is singular that when the whole fen was drowned the inhabitants about the outfalls clamoured for more water. When the first Undertakers pre-

\* Allotments for cutting turf to supply commoners with fuel known as cut-land are described on the Cut-Land Roll. In 1783, an Act 23 Geo. III., c. 25, empowered the Conservators of the Great Level to sell the taxes of such Adventure Land as may have been cut for turf to the owners thereof.

† A project for the inclosure and reclamation of the Zuiderzee is now (1901) before the States General of the Netherlands. The State is to defray the cost of constructing an inclosing dike to exclude the North Sea. It will extend from the North Holland Coast; through the Amsteldiep, to the island of Wieringen, and thence to the Friesland coast of Piaam. By the scheme there is to be a lake inside the Bank to receive the waters of the river Yssel, a ninth of the volume of the Rhine, and thus there will be a freshwater lake covering an area of 300,000 acres instead of salt water. The reclamation scheme provides for 4 polders of reclaimed land, the Wieringen Polder of 50,000 acres and the Hoorn Polder of 75,000. The chief feature is the complete change which will be effected by the formation of the freshwater lake, to furnish potable water to Friesland, which now suffers from want of fresh water in the summer and a drought which parches the pastures.



sented their project the Cambridge Dons saw that the days of the Cam were numbered, and that their butteries would be empty. In vain for juries to present the dikereeves for not executing their warrant according to the custom of the fens, *i.e.*, by enforcing, roking and cleansing of sewers three times by the year. The farmers were in despair. The whole Isle petitioned in 1590, and the Nene Outfall was not undertaken until 1631.

The petycon of ye contrye to ye Privie Counsaill  
on ye behalf of Capt Tho. Lovell

Most humbly beseching and doe shew to y<sup>r</sup> right honorable lopp<sup>s</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> porr suppt<sup>s</sup> y<sup>e</sup> distressed inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> Ile of Ely y<sup>t</sup> whereas the said Ile dooth conteyne 24 townes sondry of y<sup>e</sup>m consy sting of 1000 and some of 3000 psons of her maties lovinge subjects whose lyvinge and lyvelyhood hath wholly proceded from y<sup>e</sup> great and large waste fennes and mores therein somtyme good pasture and of great pfit now lying under water and of none use w<sup>ch</sup> havinge bene so drowned by ye space of div<sup>r</sup>se yeares now past and like to continew have so pittifully empoverished y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants and brought us into y<sup>e</sup> extremity of misery y<sup>t</sup> we are in no wise able to mayntayne o<sup>r</sup> p<sup>r</sup>nt poore estates and much lesse to releive ye great numbers who lately gave plentifull releife themselves and did largely and willingly contribute towards her highnes subsidies and s<sup>r</sup>vices as well of p<sup>r</sup>ovision of howshold as of furnitur aminition for y<sup>e</sup> warres who ar now enforced to live of almes and many to begge and some to be sterved and so die for hunger forseinge in their o<sup>r</sup> own lamentable decay and ruyn shortly to ensew unlesse by her maties gracious goodnes and yo<sup>r</sup> hon<sup>r</sup> wisdomes yt be p<sup>r</sup>vented And beyng now frustrated of y<sup>t</sup> late concyved hope of redresse by an acte of Pliamt lately entended to y<sup>t</sup> purpose and seinge neyther lyklyhood of amendment nor possibility of continuance of this o<sup>r</sup> estate y<sup>e</sup> same dayly growing worse and worse. This is o<sup>r</sup> last and only refuge hope and most humble request y<sup>t</sup> yt may please yo<sup>r</sup> lopp<sup>s</sup> to be suters to her highness in o<sup>r</sup> behalfe y<sup>t</sup> through her p<sup>r</sup>incely goodnes and p<sup>r</sup>ovidence some speedy and effectual course may be taken for the dreyninge of this so great and miserable a contry accordingly as was intended by y<sup>e</sup> said acte and further fo<sup>r</sup> ye layinge forth some of those grounds such as shall seme best to ye lords of ye soyle and the best and most discrete inhabitants into severalls ye same to be planted with wodd\* and inseparably anexed to ye maners messuages tenements and cottages to be holders by ye same tenures and fo<sup>r</sup> ye accustomed fynes and rents wherein if y<sup>t</sup> may please yo<sup>r</sup> lps. in pitty of o<sup>r</sup> pore distressed estates to releive so many thousands who by this means may have sufficient. We assuredly trust in short tyme to be able easily to match yf not go before ye best of o<sup>r</sup> predecessors and yeldinge ye fruits of most loyall subjects to her Ma<sup>tie</sup> in her services and we shall be more and more bound continuallie to pray for your lordships prosperitie.

Several Fen Bills were brought into Parliament early in the reign of James I. The drowned state of Well Moor, part of which was afterwards called Londoners' Fen, attracted the attention of Sir John Popham, who "much affecting the good

\* See Art. 836, vol. 4, *Fenland Notes and Queries*, on the growth of woad.

of the country" undertook to cut a drain from Well Stream across the moor to Powdike. This is the work which is called Popham's Eau.\* When the death of Sir John, in 1607,† stopt the work, a Bill was promoted by some undertakers for the purpose of completing the Eau. It was referred to the Commissioners of Sewers for their opinion, who made report that (1) "the scheme is very profitable to the State and rather honourable than beneficial to the Undertakers; (2) the Levell included in the Bill is about 40,000 acres of rich soil which for want of means of conveying away the water lyeth unprofitable sometimes seven years together; (3) My Lord Popham for the draining of their grounds amongst others should have had the third acre by ye consent of ye Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers, but these undertakers are content with an eighth parte."‡

The Commissioners became alarmed because "the calcies, waies and passages through the large stay of the waters and

\* The Eau was seven miles long. It was closed because the unretentive banks caused the drowning of the adjoining fens. Mr. S. Bell, through whose land the Eau was cut, induced the Commissioners of Sewers to view it, and to order the doors of the upper sluice to be shut. No compensation had been given to the landowners and commoners whose land had been taken, and it seemed hard to them to give part of their land to form a work which drowned the country. Atkins, writing in 1618, says "It is a worthy river and well placed, and from Well Towne's End to Salters Load, which is little above four miles, hath more fall than there is thought to be between Peterborough and Well which is 40 miles and more as the water cometh."

† Sir John Popham, Chief Justice of the King's Bench from 1603—1607. Notorious for cruel sentences and the condemnation of witches. He justified the execution of two young women at Cambridge because he was afraid that Christian Faith would end if the belief in witchcraft did!! A petition of the King refers to "the covetous bluddie popham who offereth to lend 10,000 poundes towards the draining of the fenss thereby to take many poore mens comins from them for his owne profit: if yor Matie should borrowe but one hundred he would crye. He is cursed of all pore of that parte of England and they swere they will kill him or such as shall be employde therein." Dom. Jac. I., v. 19, 47.

Sir John and the Darrells were related. It was common report that his estate at Littlecot, Wilts., was the price of corruptly allowing one Darrell, who had committed an atrocious murder, to escape; more anxious to keep the estate in the family than to get the murderer out of it. Scott in a ballad in Rokeby refers to this.

‡ S.P., Dom. Jac. I., vol. 26. Juries were making presentments. That relating to Maidlode, an old drain shown on Saxton's Map in 1576, is as follows;—

14 Aug 1611

Maydeload—Itm they present and saye that upon vewe taken by them of a crteyne sewar called Mayde loade that the said sewar is growne and landed up from the upper end of the said load next Welney river unto a crteyne place called Hyllepoole and also the sd sewar is sylted and landed up one quarter of a myle next from the sluice upward to the place called Hyllepoole afsd. And also one of the doers of the sd Sluice will not open and shut but at an extraordinary and outrageous water to the great lett of the water wch sd sewar and sluice is to be kepte dytched skowred haffed and roked out by St John Wats Knyght and crteyne other gents of London in consideracon of the moyetie of thre thowsand acres or thereabout of severalls and Comons wch by conveyance and lawe of sewars are formerly made and assured over unto the sd Sir John Wats and other the sd gents of London. And the like as to London Lode.

the sock of it doe dailie become more and more grievous noysome and daungerous unto travailers and chargeable to the repayrers," and because the country raised such an outcry about the abandonment of Popham's Eau.

In 1609 the recital to their decrees made at Ely reviews the aspect of affairs:—

Insula Elien in Com. Cant.	}	1609	At a Sess: of Sewers held at Ely 9 June 7 Jac 1. coram Sir Ja <sup>s</sup> . Peyton K <sup>t</sup> . Sir Miles Sandys K <sup>t</sup> . and B <sup>t</sup> . Sir Simeon Steward K <sup>t</sup> . Sir Rich <sup>d</sup> Cox K <sup>t</sup> . Humphrie Tindall D.D. dean of Ely, James Taylor D.D. James Weston Esq. Sinolphus Bell, Esq. John fincham Bestney Betts esqs. Comiss <sup>rs</sup> of Sewers.
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It is enacted and established as followeth viz.

Whereas ther be maney lowe and ffenny grounds lyinge aswell w<sup>h</sup>in the Isle of Ely as in the Contryes of Norffolke Suffolke Cambridge Huntingdon Northampton and Lincolne wch are for the moste parte overflowen by the freshe waters for wante of mayntayninge and repayringe ther auncient draynes fallinge out of the say<sup>d</sup> Contries into the Sea, divers of wch draynes having bene of long tyme neglected are now wholly lost and growne up to the great losse and hurte of the say<sup>d</sup> cuntryes for the redresse whereof divers honorable persons and men of great accompte for the common goode of the say<sup>d</sup> countries have attempted to recover the say<sup>d</sup> ffennes and lowe grounds Amongste wch worthy men Sr. John Popham K<sup>t</sup> late Lord Cheife Justice of England to his grete costs and charges began, in our judgments, an excellent peece of worke in makinge a newe loade or ryver beginning at the river of Nene leadinge from Marche to Well and so extending thorough the common and severall ffens in Upwell within the Isle of Ely into the ryver of Wellney and from thence over the s<sup>d</sup> ryver of Wellney thorough other common and severall ffens in Upwell aforesaid in the countey of Norff. to a place called Northdelphe and ther it falleth into Well Creeke and by that into the ryver of Ouse but the say<sup>d</sup> Sir John Popham being prevented by death it was left unfynished Wherupon We the Coission<sup>s</sup> above named as well upon our owne knowledge and skill as by the peticons and presentments of divers men in the county of Norff: and in the Isle of Ely best experienced in the workes of drayninge Having considered the inestimable profit and comoditye that those countries shall receive by the perfecting of the say<sup>d</sup> loade or ryver Doe at this present Session of Sewers ordain decree and establish that the say<sup>d</sup> ryver beginning at March Streame and extending unto Wellney ryver shall be clenسد skowred and perfected by taking up all the dames in the say<sup>d</sup> ryver and all other the letts stopps and hinderances taken awaye w<sup>h</sup> all convenient speede And we doe likewyse ordaine and decree that the say<sup>d</sup> loade or ryver from the falling into Wellney ryver into the Calsey in Upwell being by estimacon one forlonge, shalbe diked and skowred answerable to the rest, of the say<sup>d</sup> ryver in wydenes and depth and that the corner of Sir John Watts his ground called Walsingham (? lands) not conteyning or exceeding three square perches of ground shalbe cutt awaye and all the mynor thrown into the grounds of the s<sup>d</sup> Sir John Watts\* and made bank like for the better defending of his ground from the overflowinge of th s<sup>d</sup> ryver Item wee doe ordeyne and decree that the

\* Alderman Sir John Watts, a Shipowner, served as a volunteer in his own ship against the Spanish Armada. Governor of the East India Company, 1601. To his energy about the equipment of privateers he owed the reputation of being "the greatest pirate in the kingdom." Died in 1616 at Ware.

dame standing over the say<sup>d</sup> ryver next unto Well Causey shalbe taken up and in the same place a good and sufficient bridge of bricke ther placed for the passage of cartes and other things wch bridge shall conteyne in bredth ten foote and to be made in the fashion of a sluice having three arches or more every arche to conteyne in bredth eight foote of water with three sufficient dores to every arche to shutt in tyme of necessitye and want of water for the navigation thorowe the Towne of Well And further we do ordeyn and decree that there shall be hanged a barr or cheyne of iron crosse every arche that noe boats maye passe thorough the say<sup>d</sup> bridge and that the say<sup>d</sup> sluice or bridge be placed levell wth the bottom of the say<sup>d</sup> ryver.\* The Counterpane of Popham Ea and sluice for the new cleansing of the same. The other parte is left with the Deane and Chapter of Ely. 9 June, 1609.†

The decree for the new scouring and perfecting of Popham's Eau entailed heavy taxation of the district. The second tax was a double tax, and a third tax was called for, the Londoners being assessed at £80. The grounds alleged by Wisbech for exempting them from this charge were allowed by the Commissioners, that "Popham drayne will be a mean to draw away such waters as should distend and passe through the river of Wisbech to the sea wherby it will, for want of water to maintain the outfall, be silted up to our great losse."‡ But the country was not to be appeased by decrees. March fen was a swamp, Doddington men meant to fight against further taxation, and Sir John Watts was annoyed. The Londoners had come to gather wool and did not intend to be fleeced. Sir John indicated to the Commissioners of Sewers his views in this letter:—

Right Wor. Whereas we have bynne taxed within thees three yeares laste paste by you at one hundred ffortye and fyve pounds for the making of Popham Ea in Upwell and for the payment thereof our cattle were distrained to our greate losse and trouble wch wee patientlie endured only upon the good opinion we held of your wisdomes and integrities hoping assuredlie (and the rather upon your promises) that the say<sup>d</sup> river should continuallie runne and that the Podike shall be scoured to his auncient depth and wideness doune to Salters Loade where a sluice should be sett up for the avoydinge of thoes waters and our banks eased of the burthen that before that tyme laye against them: Since wch tyme wee have harde by o<sup>r</sup> servants in thoes partes that not onlye the said Popham Ea hath binne thees two last yeares stopped but also London Loade and Smale Loade beinge both ancient sewers for the hole contrye, hath binne and are at this p<sup>s</sup>nte stopped to o<sup>r</sup> great losse and prejudice and contrarie to law and equite. Wherefore we have thought yt meete to commend this cause to yor consideracon and that you would be pleased to take such present

\* This bridge is known as Three Holes Bridge.

† Add. Ch. 33088.

‡ 27 Aug. 1611. Signed by Everard Buckworth, Thomas Parke, Thomas Pearson, Oliver Chessam, John Stanforde, and others.

ordre thot the say<sup>d</sup> loades especially Smale Loade and London Loade with the Podike may be opened and skoured to the auintient depth and widenes wch wee hope you will not denie us they beinge not to be stopped by any law of the Sewers as our Counsell assureth us and for Popham Ea we pray you would let it runne continually according to y<sup>or</sup> lawes and as you promised to the contrye or else that we may have o<sup>r</sup> monies restored againe wch by yor warrants have binne collected of us And so w<sup>th</sup> o<sup>r</sup> hartie commendacons we commend you to the proteccion of thalmightie.

Yor lovinge ffrends

John Watts William Cockayne.

And the men of Dodington, Wymblington, Benwick, and March expressed their complaints by petitions. March West Fen is deemed to be lower than any part of the Great Level. The petition from that town was as follows:—

The humble petition of the inhabitants of the towne of March  
w<sup>thin</sup> the Isle of Elye sheweth

That whereas yor said petn<sup>rs</sup> have on sundry taxacons paid towards the pfecting of a Sewar called Popham Ea the some of cxij<sup>li</sup> x<sup>s</sup> expectinge accordinge to the meaning of the lawe and the Comm<sup>rs</sup> perswasions to have thereby received some portion of benefitt in regards of their charges yt now falleth out that through the kepinge of the s<sup>d</sup> sewer shut and appropriating the general charge of manye thousands of people to a pryvate use, the ffenes belonging to yor s<sup>d</sup> peticoners are rather worse then bettered in regarde the river of Well hath bene of late in the scouring and clensing much neglected as a stream of little use for carrying awaye the waters in respecte of the streight course and great fall Popham Ea hath into Well Creeke at North delphe wch being now likewise shutt up will in tyme make a very pann of our fennes wch receivinge the waters from the high cuntrye of Huntingdonshire and Northamptonshire And some part of the River of Welland have nowe noe meanes to utter them to the Sea Maye yt therefore nowe please the right worshipfull to take notice of the shutting downe of the doores of Popham Ea and to call before y<sup>r</sup> worshippes the fenreeves of Upwell for their grievous contempt of neglecting y<sup>r</sup> warrants and also Haynes and his assistants for that they (when the doores were according to yo<sup>r</sup>. worp<sup>rs</sup>. speciall warrant though not by the officers who ought to have done yt pulled up agayne) have of their owne autoritye to the ympoverishinge of yor pet<sup>rs</sup> and their families fast pynned and barredd up the Sluyce doores by wch meanes for want of a following water course The Sewar betwene the two Sluces is much growne up with weeds and will coste a great some of money for the scouring and clensing This manifest publick injurje we humbly desyre might by yor worspp. upon those persons (to the deterring of others) be severely punished in such manner as shall stand best w<sup>th</sup> yor good liking

\* Old Powdike was made in 1223, 7 Henry III., to fend off land water from Marshland. In 1422, 1 Henry VI., the bank was broken and the Commissioners of Sewers made a decree for Powdike, and then the fens south of the New Powdike became drowned. In 1423 Thomas, Duke of Exeter, gave his license for a tunnel to convey Upwell and Outwell waters to Wigginhall Eau, but the flooding continued, and evil-disposed persons cut and cast down the new Dike and "the brokyn dyke otherwise called Oldfeild Dyke." This occasioned the Act of 22 Henry VIII., c. 11., making it a felony to cut or break any bank being parcel of the "rinde of Marshland." The descent of land water to the sea was much hindered by long banks, *e.g.*, Bishop's Bank, Needham Bank, and Well Bank. The Londoners erected Turk's Bank without the general consent of the country. It was five miles long, and being presented by a jury as a common nuisance in Sept., 1599, was ordered to be cut. There was a suit against Alderman Watts by H. Milksop, of Wisbech, about this bank. Exchr. Spl. Comm. 44 Eliz, 486.

And to conclude we doubt not but as yo<sup>r</sup> worpp<sup>s</sup> will with yo<sup>r</sup> christian care of so manye multitudes of poore as are likely (by these means) to be undone, That you will be pleased to give order for the present opening of the said Popham Ea and Small load an auneyent drayne not long since confirmed by a lawe under the Royall assent, made for the running of the saide sewar, And we yo<sup>r</sup> saide Peticioners shall remayne bound for ever to praise to god for the long Continuance of y<sup>r</sup> Worshp<sup>s</sup> healthes and prosperities

The Bill for the completion of Popham's Eau, about which the Commissioners made their report, did not become law. But the House of Commons was alive to the importance of the matter and the Bill against Purveyors which was then before Parliament, afforded the Speaker and others a chance of getting rid of the grievance of purveyance and promoting the reclamation of the Fens.\*

The charges of King James' Household were a trouble to him. He had a great aversion to the Commons, who clogged their Supply Bills with conditions, which seemed to the King an invasion of his prerogative. Hence the "royal progresses" of that chargeable royal guest, and the oppressive demands of the purveyors of the royal household. The towns of Doddington, Chatteris, and Whittlesey, called the north side of Witchford Hundred, were much aggrieved. Cambridge and the towns within the privilege of the University were exempt from this contribution, so it fell the heavier on the Fens.† The Speaker, Sir Edward Phelips, a resident in the Isle of Ely, humbly proposed to the King that he would be pleased to release his right to purveyance and in lieu accept a share in the project for recovering and issuing land in the Islet which was likely to be a perpetual standing revenue, thus:—

To the Moste highe and mightye Prince King James  
his liege and Soveraige Lord.

Maie it please yo<sup>r</sup> majestie There are divers gentlemen of the lower house well affected (as I asure myselfe) to the service of your majestie and the Realm and of good reputation in the house whoe oute of dutifull

\* Dom. Jac. 1, vol. 26, 37. The inhabitants of Holland, Lincs., were charged with the provision of "20 fat oxen and 200 sheep for composition provision of beeves and mutton to be delivered at Court into the office of accatory" for service of H.M. Household. Exch. Depos., 16 Car. I., T2.

† Dom. Car. I., 43, 101. The City of Oxford and Town of Cambridge and the country five miles around had been, time out of mind, exempt from the charges of Purveyors of Victual. In 1555 these officers ignored the privilege. This led to the petition, University and "scholars with bare and small sustenacon," and the Act 2 and 3, P. and M. cxiv., in confirmation of the privilege.

desire to give contente unto yo<sup>r</sup> majestie and to remove such cause of discontente amonge your people as the abuse of purveyors hath heretofore and may hereafter breede, have entred into consideracon of a projecte formerlie moved touching the raising unto yo<sup>r</sup> majestie of a perpetuall standing revenue towards the charges of yo<sup>r</sup> House oute of the landes to be recovered and inned in the Ile of Elie. There is a Bill in the house touching the drayninge of those ffenns wherbie the undertakers are to have for their charges 112,000 acres wch in time it is thought may be worth £50,000 a yeare. The desire of theis gentlemen (unto which they saie they finde manie of the house were inclinable) is that this benefit may rather accrew unto y<sup>r</sup> majestie in consideracon of discharging the realm of this burden of purveyors and they offer (if yo<sup>r</sup> maj<sup>tie</sup> shall graciously allowe thereof) to emploie the best endeavours that without any defalcation of these three subsidies and six fiftenees already granted to yo<sup>r</sup> majestie those ffenns may be inned at the Comon charge of the Realme to be assured unto y<sup>r</sup> maj<sup>ties</sup> use at such times as they shalbe worthe cleerlie £30,000 by the yeare, at the leaste. In consideracon that y<sup>r</sup> Maj, then (and not before) will be graciously pleased wholie to release your highness rightes whatsoever and claime of purveyance and in the meane season the purveyance to continue as now it dothe. This is the effecte in general of their humble desire and offer wch they most dutifully submit to y<sup>r</sup> maj<sup>ties</sup> good pleasure

London, this vi<sup>th</sup>. of maye, 1606.

Yo<sup>r</sup> ma<sup>ties</sup>. moste loiall and dutifull Subjecte and Servante,  
Edward Philipps\*

But King James was not in a position to give anything up. Many projects were submitted whereby the royal revenue might be increased by £150,000 a year. The Fens were the El Dorado of the Age; the madder licenses† were to recoup the outlay on the drainage works, and a loan by the City would be easily raised, so eager were the Aldermen to invest their funds in Well Moor, where centuries before King John's forces had been swallowed up; but "after all," as Chamberlain in his news letter puts it, "the plain ancient way of Parliament should be the fittest source of a royal revenue but the King will not be persuaded to it."

The Palatinate engrossed the King's attention. His Majesty deemed himself honour bound to aid in the defence and recovery of the province; that absorbed all contributions, benevolences and subsidies. The royal reclamation of "a new country" in the Fens was postponed.

L. G.

\* Dom. Jac. I., vol. 21—11. Sir Edw. Phelps, Kt., King's Sergeant-at-Law, Chancellor to Henry P. of Wales, Master of the Rolls, 1611, and Justice of the County Palatine. Phelps Drain is marked on old maps at Harrimere.

† Rubra tinctorum. The root yields a red dye. In 1671, James Smyth had a grant of the privilege of the sole making and planting of madder for 14 years. He began planting at Walsoken and around Wisbech in 1662. It is a three years crop, planted in beds like asparagus. He had a tithe suit against Mr. Brook, rector of Walsoken, about paying tithe during the unproductive years. The madder mill was at Leverington.

**929.—Outrages at Peterborough, 1820.**—What was the occasion of the disturbances at Peterborough in 1820, which were serious enough to require a detachment of troops to preserve order? In the issue for 20 December I read the following in *The Stamford Mercury*:—

The troop of the 19th Lancers, which had been stationed at Peterborough to prevent the recurrence of those scenes of outrage which recently disgraced that city, has been remanded to head-quarters; the necessity for their continuance at the former place having, happily, ceased.—The conduct both of the officers and men during their stay, has been such as to deserve and secure the approbation of the respectable part of the inhabitants,—whose sentiments, we are convinced, we only reiterate, whilst expressing our respect for the promptitude and firmness which the Magistrates of that Liberty have uniformly evinced, in adopting every measure calculated to restore and to preserve the peace of the community.

**930.—Whittlesey Registers (922).**—Continued from page 154.

1667

John Warwicke & Agnes Hall .....	April 8
Valentine Stones & Sarah Pratu .....	April 10
John Balye & Anna Martin .....	April 14
John Sumner & An Batson .....	April 22
John Rolt & Jeays Goldinge .....	April 30
Aaron Dring & Agnes Ground .....	Maye.....
Robert Webster & Grace Cooper .....	Maye.....
Robert Hardlye & Agnes Nicholls .....	Maye.....
John Sehell & Elizabeth Newbone.....	Maye.....
John Falkener & Alice Hemont .....	Maye.....
John Mathew and Rose Johnson .....	Maye.....
William Martin & Christian [name omitted].....	June.....
Nicholas Fletcher & An Benson .....	June.....
Robert Garner & Elliner Bevill.....	Julye.....
Roger Greenup & Ellinor Greenwood .....	Aug.....
Thomas Searle & Tomasin Hardlye .....	Sep. 29
Thomas Robinson & Elizabeth Robinson .....	Oct.....
Joseph Watten & Mary Hudson .....	Oct.....
Tobias Carter & Catherine Lemarke .....	Oct. 31
William James Mary Wilde.....	Nov. 2
James Wittam Agnes Bradford .....	Nov. 10
Thomas Eaton & Agnes Mason.....	Nov. 14
Will: Disney & Elizabeth Parson.....	Nov. 17
Stephen Burnham & Alice Houshold.....	Dec. 19
Symeon Banbridge and Alice Levens .....	Dec. 22
Frances Blunt & Mary Ferrow .....	Jan. 5
Thomas Hemont & Anna Ferrow.....	Jan. 12
Thomas Burbidge & Margeret Jue .....	Mar. 10
Richard Button & Amye Jackson.....	March 15
Henerye Clarke Isabell Hopton .....	Mar. 24
Robert Atkin Isabell Peele .....	Mar. 24

1668

John Dringe & Elizabeth Leister .....	Mar. 25
Richard Cleaton & Jane Windom.....	April 16



Thomas Parke & An Moore .....	Maye.....
Robert Searle & Elizabeth Gilbee .....	Maye 12
Thomas Man Sara Wattell .....	Maye.....
William Garner & Margeret Dalton [Dallon ?] .....	Maye 26
Andrew Buk Alice Cotterell .....	July 16
Thomas Wright & Alice Boyce.....	
William Hodkinson & Elizabeth Frankling .....	Oct.....
Isaack Bosworth & Agnes Turner .....	Oct.....
Robert Hardlye & An Helmes .....	Oct.....
Joseph Johnson & An Buck .....	Oct.....
John Avelinge & Elizabeth Randall of Fletton.....	
Thomas Watts & Ellinor Brochurst (?) .....	
Nicholas Burnham & Frances Webster .....	Dec.....
Robert Waterfall & Isabell Clarke .....	Dec.....

Rich: Mason, Vic:

[The following nine entries are undecipherable.]

.....	
.....	
.....	2
.....	10
.....	Jan. 31
..... & Mary Fowler (?) .....	Feb. 4
John..... & Ellinor .....	Feb.....
.....	Feb.....
.....	Mar. 14

1669

Roger Weeks & Susanna Bittridge (?) [may be Guttridge]	
William Wilkinson & Jone Carter .....	April 15
John Speechlye & Annis Hemont.....	April 15
John (Ho)bbs [Gibbs ?] & Mary Lee .....	April 18
Robert Speechlye & An Riselye .....	April 18
Peter Durrand & Frances Boyce .....	April 27
John Polter & An Florebaye.....	April 30
William Parker & Margeret Pennyne.....	Maye 2
Roger Mease & Margeret Hawson .....	Maye 2
Robert Elsom & Alice Balye .....	Maye 16
John Hill & Elizabeth Comfort.....	June 27
Mathew Hygham & Susanna Foxon.....	Julye 3
Francis Cooke & Susanna Foster .....	Julye 25
Thomas Stacey & Alice Harbuckle .....	Julye 25
Peter Lee [See ?] & Margeret Evars.....	Sep. 17
John Avelinge & Ellinor Parker.....	Oct. 12
Thomas Boyce & Ellinor Dagnell.....	Oct. 21
Thomas Reale & Elizabeth Moore .....	Oct. 22
Robert Sechell & Elizabeth Males .....	Oct. 24
Thomas Hemont & Agnes Layton .....	Oct. 31
[illegible] Brown & Mary Hobbs .....	Nov.....
John Harrowaye & Mary Baldwine.....	Jan.....
Benjamin Good & An Boland .....	Jan. 6
Thomas Hardlye & Jeane Watts .....	Jan. 6
Thomas Sharpe & Elizabeth Chapman .....	Jan. 14
Thomas James & Elizabeth Disney .....	Feb. 10
Nicholas Taverner & Rose Freeman.....	Feb. 20
Robert Richar & Marye Baldwine .....	Feb. 24

## 1670

Thomas Danby & Ellin Boyce .....	March 4
William Bedford & An Bradburrye .....	Aprill 4
John Johnson & An Boziers .....	Aprill 4
Robert Kidson & Elizabeth Hastings .....	Aprill....
*William Bedford & An Bradburrye .....	Aprill....
Edmund Collison & Elize Searle .....	Aprill....
Thomas Burgiss & Elizabeth Smith.....	Maye.....
Thomas Whitmore & Alice James .....	Maye 2
Oswald West (?) & Mary West .....	Maye 4
Thomas Smith & Agnes Whinn.....	June.....
John Colls & Margeret Denis (?) [illegible, may be Dean]	June 5
Thomas Briggs and Marye Draper .....	June 12
William Harrison & Agnes Bric(e) .....	June 14
William Butcher & Marye Jaxon .....	Julye 3
William Haynesworth & Ellin Belstrop .....	Julye 3
John Goldinge & Jone Ground.....	Oct. 2
John Layton & Sarah Larymore .....	Oct. 8
Robert Hartford & An Penniston.....	Oct. 16
Christopher Walter & Dorothy Erick .....	Oct. 17
Robert James & Marye Layton.....	Oct. 20
John West & An Atkin .....	Oct. 22
John Bingham Marye Danbye .....	Oct. 26
William Hide & Isabell Warde.....	Nov. 6
John Robinson & Marye Boyce.....	Nov. 17
Nicholas Davye & Anna Beaslye .....	Dec. 2
[John Hall? nearly obliterated. Doubtful] & Elizabeth Searle.....	
Thomas.....[page torn] .....	Jan. 22
William .....	Jan. 28
Ralphe Speechlye & Mary Randall .....	Feb. 12
Richard Isaack & Elizabeth Kingston.....	March 4
John Watson & Ellinor Newman .....	March 7

## 1671

John Barradon & Elizabeth [name omitted].....	March 30
William Browne & Agnes Gates .....	Aprill 30
Richard Hall & Agnes Read .....	Aprill 25
William Laxon & Elizabeth Emry .....	Maye 25
Henerye Sechell & An Balye.....	June 1
Thomas Bevill & Amy England .....	June 27
Robert Figgen & Marye Smith.....	Julye 20
Robert Dagle & Dorcas Turner .....	Julye 30
George Thorpe & An Boyce .....	Aug. 6
John Ayre & Agnes Dunmore .....	Sep. 4
William Hemont & Agnes Bradford .....	14
Thomas Asline & Elizabeth Bingham .....	Oct. 5
Robert Jarmin & Isabell Woodford.....	Oct. 5
Robert Hart & Alice Newman .....	Oct. 8
John Lambe & Elizabeth Selbye .....	Oct. 14
William Little & Isabell Adams .....	Oct. 15
Thomas Peace & Marye Bingham.....	Oct. 19
Leonard Eate & An Richardson .....	Oct. 22
Thomas Cox & Jone Gibbs .....	Oct. 26
Henerye Dover & Catherine Sudbery .....	Oct. 24
James Clavard & Elizabeth Staton .....	Oct. 29
Robert Ransom & An Stables .....	Dec. 21

\* Entered twice.

Will: Ginbye & An Ayre .....	Dec. 24
John Millar & Agnes Dodson .....	Jan. 16
John Hall & Anne Quen(cy ?) .....	Jan. 28
William Robinet & Eve Penniston .....	Febr. 1

## 1672

George Golding & Alice Fletcher.....	April 4
Henerye Asline & Ellin Southolde .....	May 5
George Richar & Ellin Burnham .....	May 19
John Hall & Martha Matson.....	June 4
Peter Brownknavc & Mary Freman.....	June 27
David Clarke & Agnes Ebbott .....	June 27
Laurence Searle & Dorothy Whitmore .....	June 29
Mathew Hemont & Agnes Corbye .....	Julye 1
Robert Willowsee & Jone Hemont .....	July 9
Edward Palmer & Rebecca Brochus .....	Aug. 2
Robert Sha(w ?) & An Warwick .....	Sep. 15
William Austine & Catherine Smith .....	Oct. 6
John Glew & Amye Robinet .....	Oct. 10
Thomas Harrissmith & An Hemont.....	Oct. 18
Robert Fletcher & Marye Whitmore .....	Oct. 24
Robert England & Sara Raye .....	Oct. 30
William Hemont & Ann Pooles .....	Oct. 30
German Bird & Marye Wainewright .....	Nov. 3
*John Booker & Elizabeth Hodson.....	Nov. 3
Robert Wagstaffe & Jane Mitten .....	Dec. 10
John Booker & Elizabeth Hodson.....	Dec. 15
Thomas Speechlye & Rose Curtisse .....	Dec. 26
Thomas Lee & Isabell Newman .....	Dec. 28
Joseph Barnes & Amye Meadows.....	Jan. 6
William Avelinge & Jone Richar .....	Jan. 28

Rich: Mason, Vicar.

On a loose leaf of parchment, containing upwards of a hundred Registers of Marriages, only the following ten can be deciphered.

## 1678

Mathew Aveling & Catherin Dawson .....	Oct. ....
Richard Sharpe & Mary Brisse .....	
William Garner & Alice Oftye .....	
William Ayre & An Smith.....	

## 1679

Thomas Speechlye & Sara Behage .....	Mar. 25
John Con & Isabell Oftye .....	Oct. 17
William Oftye & Margeret Bevill.....	Oct. 30
Jefferye Coye & Agnes Plumer.....	
Robert Bowman & Elizab: Guttridge .....	Nov. 10
George Gates & Eliz. Housholde .....	Jan. 1

The following names are also decipherable, but the name of the person to whom they were severally married cannot be read:—

Thomas Aslin, John Young, Will: Dowe, Thos. Beard, Will. Newman, Will. Darlye, Wildbore, Lewin, An. Rasin, Margeret Dandy, Isabell and Eliz. Speechlye, Barbara Bamfield, and Bennit.

\* Entered again on December 15.

## ST. MARY'S IN WITTLESEA 1683.

The following are copies of all the Marriage Registers contained in the long thin folio Register Book (21in. by 8½in.). Many leaves are missing, several are torn across, with only one half of the leaf remaining, and others are detached from the binding, lying quite loose. At the present time this book consists of 18 leaves of paper, bound in leather. It is in a fragile condition and requires careful handling. The volume also contains Registers of Baptisms, 1683 to 1694, and of Burials, 1683 to 1686.

## MARRIAGES 1683

John Bradford and Elizabeth Benitt .....	April 5
Robert Smith & Elizabeth Ground .....	April 29
George Tassell & Alice Beomomt.....	May 29
William Anger & Sara Peak .....	May 30
John Willows & Catherin Burnit .....	June 24
Nicholas Davy & Frances Ferroure .....	July 22
Thomas Arrowsmith & Rose Speechly.....	Aug. 29
John Crowson & Mary Taylor .....	Aug. 29
Willia Oftye & Ellinor Elmar .....	Sep. 2
Willyam Searle & Alce Searle .....	Oct. 9
Samuell Speechly & Mary Doufin .....	Oct. 16
John Shawe & Elizbt Oughty .....	Oct. 16
Thomas Gardner & Elizbt Wake .....	Oct. 23
John Parker & Alce Finables .....	Dec. 2
Willyam Earnall & Ann Wittome.....	4
Roger Clarke & Mary Piner .....	4
Aron Dringe & Ann Garment .....	June 10
Thomas Campaine & Mary Edridge.....	Feb. 5

[Several pages missing.]

## \*16(88?)

Tho Jones & [Jane ?] . . . . son .....	June 6
James Searl Blanch Little .....	July 1
Tho. Coleman Ruth de Camps.....	July 1
Rich <sup>d</sup> . Garner Mary Watson .....	July 7
Edw. Colls Margret Bourn .....	July 12
John Adkinson Eliz Browne .....	July 19
John Watson Catharin Crosse .....	Oct. 3
Georg Asbridge Jane Crane .....	Oct. 26
Thos Aslin Dorathy Binsly .....	Nov. 10
Will Searl Bridgit Whitmore .....	Oct. 1
Ralf Ward Bridgit England .....	Nov. 12
Charles Hopper Mary Davy.....	Nov. 4
Rob <sup>t</sup> Rogers Jane Lilford .....	Feb. 10
Tho. Wilks Mary Smart .....	March 12
John Hudson Mary Garner.....	March 23

\* A portion of the year-date is torn away, but as the entries precede those on the other side of the page, dated 1690, without any gap, it is clear that this and the next year are correctly dated, 1688 and 1689.

## 931.—Moulton, Lincolnshire : Cole's MSS. (916).—

Tenements that ought to give tithes of flax to the Prior of Spalding, in Multon.

Of Goukestoft, which abuts upon Alstondik in Multon towards the north.

Of Yunge Gregoriestoft, which abuts upon Alstondik towards the south.

Of four acres in the Croft of John Busshe which are of the fee of the Temple, behind his messuage.

Of Sirenestoft, of the land of Richard son of William, of the fee of the Temple.

Of all the tenements of Sir Thomas de Multon which he holds in demesne.

Of two acres and a half of land abutting upon the ditch of John son of Walter, of the land of John Underwood, of the fee of the Temple.

Of one acre lying there, of the land of Nigel Musel and of William Mussel.

Of two acres lying in the same place, of the land of Thomas Smythe.

Of three acres there of the land of William Underwind.

Of two acres and a half there of the land of Richard Bercar' [Sheep-cot].

Of one acre at Alstondik of the land of William Underwind.

Of two acres at Alstondik of the land of William Proudfof.

Of six acres of land of Thomas, son of Richard, in the Croft of his house.

Cole MS., 43, 330.

Composition between the Prior of Spalding and Sir Thomas de Multon, in a suit moved between them, regarding the lesser tithes and an annual rent.

Memorandum, that in the presence of Sir (*dominus*) J. Prior of Spalding, of the one part, and Thomas de Multon, of the other part, in the Church of Weston, on Wednesday next before the Circumcision of our Lord, in the year 1269, to

treat of peace between the parties aforesaid, conceded and agreed upon by the will of both, in a suit moved in the Court of Christianity regarding the lesser tithes, namely, hunting in the park of Multon, herbage of the garden, cut wood, dove-cots, butter, domestic geese, fisheries; and in a suit moved in the Court of our lord the King, regarding an annual rent of 60<sup>s.</sup>, peace was renewed (*pax reformata fuit*) in the manner following, the mediators being Master Alexander, rector of the Church of Swineshed, at that time Official of the lord (*Domini*) Archdeacon of Lincoln, Sir James de Bassi, parson of Skirbek, Master William de Walpol, Sir John de Grethford, Vicar of Multon, Gilbert de Cheile, and others, namely, that the said Thomas shall pay the tithe of milk at the tenth day, or cheese, with all the collected cream (*cum tota pinguedine coagulatum*) at the will of the lord Prior, and the right shoulder of Venison (*bestie sue Venaconis*). In like manner he shall pay the tithe of domestic fowl, and of his dove-cot, fully and wholly without contradiction. But the lord Prior has remitted to the said Thomas the tithes of the fish-ponds. Moreover the petition regarding the tithes of Garden herbage, and of cut wood, shall cease between the aforesaid parties, until the tithes of this nature may be generally paid. Moreover the said Thomas has agreed to the payment of the said annual rent of 60<sup>s.</sup> to the lord Prior at the proper terms, and with his glove (*ciroteca sua*) has invested the same in the hands of the said Prior, and has mortgaged the arrears of three years, namely nine pounds; nevertheless the said lord Prior, at the instance of common friends, has remitted to the said Thomas, the half of those nine pounds. And the said mediators are witnesses of this peace. Robert, sub-prior of Spalding, John de Tid, John, monk of Spalding, Master Henry de Edinham, clerk, William de Cletham, clerk, Officials, &c., and many others being present, seeing, and hearing. In testimony whereof the seal of the aforesaid official is affixed.

Process by the Prior against the Vicar of Quappelad [Whaplode], for the tithe of the Manor of Multon. Petition of the Prior against the Vicar of Quappelad for the lesser tithes arising from the Manor of Multon.

The Prior and Convent of Spalding allege against Simon, the Vicar of Quappelade, that, when they had the power of collecting, fully and entirely, all and singular the lesser tithes of the Manor of Multon, and of the Church of Multon so named, of which they are the Rectors, the said Simon deprived them of the said power, and despoiled them of a certain portion of the said tithes, at a yearly estimate of 40<sup>s</sup>., whereupon they seek to be restored, &c. Cole MS., 43, 326.

1. Because it has been seen above regarding certain matters touching the appropriation of the Churches of Spalding and Pincebeck, and because the Church of Multon was in like manner with the Churches of Spalding and Pincebeck appropriated to the Prior and Convent of Spalding, as above in the third part near the beginning [*vide* p. 328, &c.], therefore it must now be seen with regard to those matters touching the appropriation of the Church of Multon. Be it known that the right of advowson of the Church of Multon was acquired by the Prior and Convent with the Manor of Spalding, as is aforesaid regarding the advowson of other Churches, and they always held it without strife or controversy, therefore, other things omitted, it must be seen about the Vicarage.

2. Letters testimonial regarding the Admission of a certain person to be Vicar of Multon, under an annual pension of seven marks.

To all the faithful in Christ, Robert de Arderne, Canon of the Church of Lincoln, and Vice-archdeacon, Greeting. Know all that I, at the presentation of the Prior and Convent of Spalding, have received H., the chaplain, to the perpetual vicarage of the Church of Multon, to be held under an annual pension of seven marks, saving in all things the dignity of the Church of Lincoln.

Cole MS., 43, 323.

Regarding the presentation of a certain person to the Vicarage of Moulton under a pension of six marks.

The Prior and Convent have granted to Lambert de Bradehuse the Vicarage of Multon rendering annually six marks in silver at the four terms ; at Easter, 2 marks ; at the feast of S. Botulph, 2 marks ; at the feast of S. Michael, 1 mark ; and at the Purification, 1 mark ; in name of a Pension.

Cole MS., 43, 323.

A Composition between the Prior of Spalding and the Vicar of Multon, regarding a Pension of four pounds and wax to be paid to the Prior, and likewise regarding the portions of the Vicarage.

To all those to whom this present writing shall come the Dean of Hoiland sends greeting in the Lord. Know all that I have inspected the Letters of a certain Composition, some time since entered into between the Prior of Spalding and the Convent, of the one part, and Master John, formerly Vicar of the Church of Multon, of the other part, not cancelled, not abolished, nor in any part of them vitiated, and found in the possession of the Executors of the will of Master Thomas de Hipetoft, lately Vicar of the same Church, of the tenor below written. Memorandum, that on Wednesday in Easter Week, A.D. 1252, at Spalding, appeared Master John, Vicar of Multon, before the Prior of the same place and many other honest men (*fidedignis*), saying that he was unwilling to maintain a controversy with an issue against the said Prior and his Convent, as far as he was concerned ; whence, when the question was raised between these same parties before the Archdeacon of Lincoln, by Apostolic Authority, who made investigation about six marks of annual Pension from the Vicarage of Multon, wax of oblation on the day of the Purification of the Blessed [Virgin] Mary, and of candles at the purification of women, the tithes of mills, flax, and the small tithes issuing from the demesne of Thomas de Multon, and from the fee of the Hospital in the parish of Multon, the



same Master John in the presence of the said persons assembled for the purpose confessed that the said six annual marks from the Vicarage of Multon were due to the said Prior and Convent in the name of a Pension, which he had resolved to pay yearly at the terms underwritten, that is to say, at Easter, 2 marks, at the feast of S. Botulph, 2 marks, and at the feast of S. Nicholas, 2 marks : for the wax and candles which he confessed in full right belonged to them he had resolved to pay annually on the feast of S. Nicholas, 24 pounds of wax at Spalding. Likewise since there were in the parish of Multon five mills, the said John conceded that the aforesaid Prior and Convent shall receive, without contradiction of the same, the tithes of the two mills which belonged to Sir [*Domini*] Lambert de Multon, and Richard the clerk ; but the tithes of the other three mills shall belong to the said John, the Vicar, for his whole life, without contradiction of the said Prior and Convent. It is agreed likewise that the said Prior and Convent shall receive wholly all the small tithes issuing from the demesne of Sir Thomas de Multon, especially of sheep (*bidentibus*, two-year-olds), and of all other animals, wild and domesticated, whether they feed in his preserve (*in suo separato*) or elsewhere in the said parish of Multon ; but the said John shall receive the tithes of sheep and of all other animals of the other parishioners, wheresoever they feed, whether in the demesne or elsewhere, without contradiction of the Prior and Convent. The said John shall also receive all particular oblations which are made in the Chapel of the said Thomas. The said Prior and Convent shall receive the tithes of flax issuing from the demesne of the said Thomas, by whomsoever the flax shall have been sown. But the said Prior and Convent and the said John shall receive and divide between them, by equal portions, the tithes of flax issuing from the fee of the Hospital in the said parish. But the other small tithes, issuing from the fee of the Hospital, the said John shall receive, by grant of the said Prior and Convent.

But the said Prior and the said John have undertaken that they will mutually observe all these things, and in . . . . of words have on both sides promised upon the Holy Sacrament (*corporali Sacramento interposito*) that they will observe them as far as in them is, saving the right of the said Prior and Convent after the departure of the said John natural or civil.\* Which composition William, Archdeacon of Lincoln in form above-named, has confirmed by the authority of our lord the Pope, which he was exercising in this matter. In testimony whereof the aforesaid Archdeacon, Delegate of our lord the Pope, has affixed his seal to this present writing, together with the seals of the parishes appended. These being witnesses, &c. Dated at Spalding, &c.

Note: that through these words following in the Composition as far as *Item cum sint in parochia de Multon quinque molen-dina* namely *in tota vita sua* &c., and throughout the words following as far as *hec autem omnia dictus Prior et dictus Johannes*, no mention is made of the Convent, and in *salva Possessione Prioris et Conventus post decessum dicti Johannis*, and through the words as far as *Quam Compositionem et in forma pretaxata*, that this concord sounds in the Composition as personal and not real.

W<sup>m</sup> Lupus was at this time Archdeacon of Lincoln. On the margin, in a very neat and small Hand of Edw. 3. Time is written, as I have placed it one Side: and by it a left Hand pointing, in a sleeve of the Fashion of the Times, exceeding neatly and finely drawn with a pen.

Cole MS., 43, 323-4.

[This last paragraph is in English in the MS.]

Letters testimonial of the Bishop of Lincoln for the Prior regarding the pensions and portions in other churches and parishes.

To all those who shall see these present Letters, John, by Divine permission Bishop of Lincoln, sends greeting in the

\* That is, whether he should die, or be removed to another cure.

Saviour of all men. We wish it to be known to you all that having examined our register of Pensions and Taxations of Portions of Churches and Ecclesiastical Benefices of our diocese fully, and having searched it thoroughly, the Pensions and Portions of certain Churches of our said diocese written below are found in the same among other matters, namely, a Pension of six marks of the Prior and Convent of Spalding in the Church of Surfleet. A Pension of five marks of the same Prior and Convent in the Church of Bolingbroc. A Pension of two marks of the same Prior and Convent in the Church of Estrekele. A Pension of fifteen shillings of the said Religious in the Church of Beltisford. A Pension of six shillings of the same Religious in the Church of Geyteburt. And a pension of six marks of the same Religious in the Church of Multon. Likewise portions of the before-written Religious which [amount] in the Church of Stareigot to two marks, six shillings, and eight pence. And in the Church of Donington to two marks: they are taxed according to the last taxation now current. In testimony of which composition our seal is appended to these presents. Dated at Stowe Park (*Parcum Stowe*) 14 Kal. Mar. [16 Feb.], in the year of our Lord, 1313, and of our consecration the 13th.

932.—**Surplice Fees, 1703.**—In an account book of the receipts of the Rev. Isaac Gregory, Vicar of Peterborough, 1698–1707, we find some interesting entries about the occasional fees received by him during four of the years of his incumbency. The accounts are made up at Michaelmas in each year. The totals are these:—

	£	s.	d.
Mich <sup>s</sup> . 1702 to Mich <sup>s</sup> . 1703.....	40	6	9
Mich <sup>s</sup> . 1703 to Mich <sup>s</sup> . 1704.....	35	2	3
Mich <sup>s</sup> 1704 to Mich <sup>s</sup> 1705.....	38	17	11
Mich <sup>s</sup> 1705 to Mich <sup>s</sup> 1706.....	20	4	3
Oct. 1706 to Jan. 1707, four months .....	7	3	4

The ordinary amounts received for the various special services were these:—Marriage, 2s. 0d.; Burial, 1s. 0d.;

Churching, 1s. 0d.; Affidavit, 6d.; Register search, 1s. 0d.; Certificate of Banns, 2s. 0d. (no fees seem to have been taken by the Vicar for publishing Banns); Mortuary, 10s.; Funeral Sermon, 10s.; Surrogate's fee, 1s. 0d.

But the wealthier parishioners often improved these amounts; and in not a few instances the fees were remitted or reduced for the poorer inhabitants. During the period dealt with in the accounts, mortuaries, at 10s. 0d. each, were received 12 times, but once or twice 6s. 8d. was paid, 6 times 3s. 6d., and 6 times 3s. 4d. And occasionally the entry "Mortuary" is made, after a fee for Burial, as though the circumstances of the deceased were such as to justify the expectation of a payment under that head, but no amount has been entered. Very often the fee for churching is 2s. 6d., and once 10s. 9d. Marriages at Thorpe cost 4s. 0d. Very often 5s. 0d. was given at weddings, once 12s. 6d., twice 10s. 0d., and once 7s. 6d.

The best fees were those connected with the funerals of the most important inhabitants. These included a mortuary, a sermon, hat-band and gloves, and a pulpit-cloth. As these last three are always entered as cash receipts, it seems probable that after being used they were taken back by the undertaker at a valuation. The pulpit, we must suppose, was elaborately draped in black for the funeral sermon.

A few of the most interesting entries are here given.

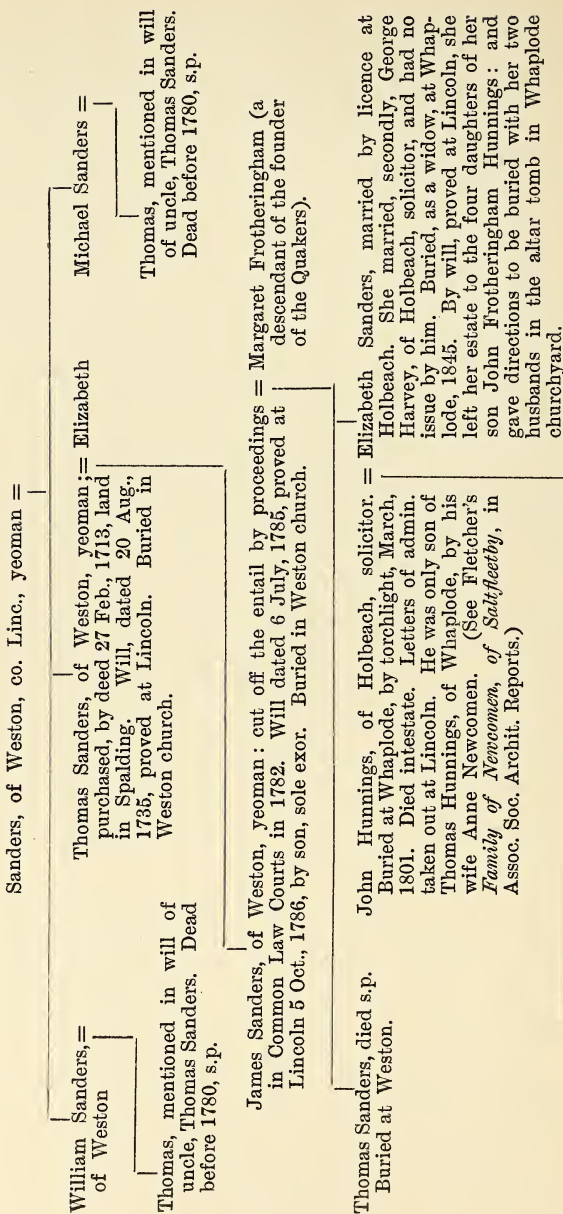
			£	s.	d.
1703	4 June	Burying Justice Dikenson .....		1	0
		A Legacy .....	5	0	0
		The Sermon .....	0	0	0
		A Mortuary .....		10	0
		A pulpit cloth .....	1	10	0
		An Alamode burying-band .....		13	6
		A Ring .....	1	0	0
		A pair of gloves .....		3	6
	12 Aug.	V <sup>g</sup> (? Visiting) & Preaching a Funeral Sermon for Mr. Hargraves.....	2	3	0
		A pair of gloves & hatband .....		4	0
	20 Dec.	Preaching a Sermon for Mr. Cumberland .....		10	0
1704	27 Feb.	Preaching for Mr. Carryer.....	1	0	0
	8 Mar.	Preaching at y <sup>e</sup> . Minster .....		10	0

		£	s.	d.
15	May	Burying Mrs. Little & y <sup>e</sup> . Sermon .....	10	9
		A pair of gloves & hatband .....	4	0
		A pulpit cloth .....	1	0 0
31	May	Churching Mrs. Slye .....	10	0
11	June	Burying Mr. Ward of Norwich.....	6	8
		A pair of gloves .....	2	0
11	Aug.	Burying Mr. Spence .....	1	0
		A Sermon .....	1	1 6
		A pulpit cloth .....	1	10 0
		A pair of gloves .....	2	0
		A Mortuary .....	10	0
1705	23 Feb.	Churching Mrs. Slye .....	10	0
	8 Mar.	Preaching at y <sup>e</sup> Minster.....	15	0
	19 Mar.	Mr. Whinyate's Burial .....	10	9
		A pair of gloves & hatband .....	8	0
		A Mortuary .....	10	0
	11 Apr.	Burying & Registering W. Troughton .....	1	6
		A pair of gloves .....	2	0
		A Sermon .....	10	0
		A Mortuary .....	10	0
	15 Apr.	Preaching for Mr Pemberton.....	10	9
	21 June	Marrying Mr. Meale .....	9	9
	8 Aug.	Burying Mr. St. Johns .....	1	1 6
		Pair of gloves & hatband .....	6	0
		A pulpit cloth .....	1	10 0
1706	30 Jan.	Preaching at y <sup>e</sup> Minster.....	10	0
	28 Sep.	Executing a Commission .....	2	6

It will be noticed that the charge of 6d. for registering a burial commences in 1705. The years, as given above, are historical years. The entries of 10s. 9d., and £1 1s. 6d., are presumably connected with the depreciation in the value of silver. If it was desired to pay a guinea, and the person making the payment paid silver instead of gold, he appears to have paid an additional sixpence. ED.

**933.—French Register at Thorney.**—Our readers will learn with much satisfaction that the Duke of Bedford has undertaken to defray the cost of printing the Thorney French Register. It will be done under the auspices of the Huguenot Society of London. His Grace has, through the Council of the Society, entrusted the work of editing to Mr. Henry Peet, F.S.A.; and all may therefore be confident that the work will be most carefully and accurately accomplished. The Register is also to be reproduced in facsimile by photography.

## 934.—Sanders, of Weston, co. Lincoln.



B

A

B

John Frothingham Hunnings, only surviving = Susanna Procter, of Boston.  
 child and heir-at-law, solicitor at Donington. Married at S. Martin's in  
 Born at Holbeach. Died intestate. Buried at the Fields, London.  
 Donington, 1827. Letters of admin. taken out  
 at Lincoln by widow.

Thomas Foster, = Susanna Mary; John  
 bap. at Don- George;  
 ington, mar. born  
 at Holbeach, and  
 1845; buried  
 at Moulton, at  
 1901, aged 81. Doning-  
 ton;  
 died an  
 infant.

Margaret Elizabeth; = Newcome  
 born at Donington, Rogers,  
 mar. and buried at late of  
 Holbeach. Bowdon,  
 co. Ches.  
 Buried at  
 Holbeach.

issue living.

Thomas Foster, = Susanna Mary; John  
 bap. at Don- George;  
 ington, mar. born  
 at Holbeach, and  
 1845; buried  
 at Moulton, at  
 1901, aged 81. Doning-  
 ton;  
 died an  
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Thomas Foster, = Susanna Mary; John  
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 at Holbeach, and  
 1845; buried  
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 1901, aged 81. Doning-  
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Thomas Foster, = Susanna Mary; John  
 bap. at Don- George;  
 ington, mar. born  
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 1845; buried  
 at Moulton, at  
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Thomas Foster, = Susanna Mary; John  
 bap. at Don- George;  
 ington, mar. born  
 at Holbeach, and  
 1845; buried  
 at Moulton, at  
 1901, aged 81. Doning-  
 ton;  
 died an  
 infant.

issue living.

William Edward Foster, F.S.A., Aldershot, = Alexandra Macpherson, dau. and co-heiress of  
 1846. Hon. Mem. Spalding Gentlemen's Society. Married Hugh Matheson. (See Foster's *Peerage Matheson*,  
 at Weston-super-Mare, 19 Aug., 1879. (See Fox-Davis's *Clan Matheson*.)  
*Armorial Families*.)

Hugh Matheson Foster; born at  
 at Aldershot, June, 1880. Aldershot, Jan., 1886; a student  
 at Wellington College.

\* In Howard's *Miscellaneous Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol. 2, N.S., p. 201.

**935.—Sanders Wills.**—In illustration of the foregoing pedigree we append abstracts of the wills of Thomas Sanders, 1735, and of James Sanders, 1785 ; together with an opinion obtained from Mr. Maurice Johnson, in 1737, as to the true intention of a certain clause in the will of the former, for which opinion the latter paid half-a-guinea.

Thomas Sanders, of Weston, co. Linc., Yeoman: dated 20 Aug., 1735 ; proved at Lincoln 24 May, 1745.

To my wife Elizabeth £6 a year to be paid by my son James out of lands disposed of unto him, during widowhood. To her also furniture for one room. My wife, "if she have Occasion for Money and Demand it shall one of her Year's Income paid unto her within a Month after my Decease." To my son James all my lands and my house. Also all household goods at age of 18. If he die without lawful issue all my lands to go to Thomas, son of my brother William, and Thomas, son of my brother Michael, the copyhold lands to the former, and the freehold lands to the latter. Trustees for my son James, Robert Taylor and Thomas Man. Supervisor, Lot Mael, Gent. The trustees are impowered to put out James to any trade or business. Son James sole Exor. Witnesses ; Robert Okey, Stephen Whils, William Blow.

In 1780 opinion was obtained from Charles Fearné as to James being seized of an estate for life, or being tenant in tail, as only son and heir, and if he could bar the remainder. The opinion was that James was tenant in tail, and could cut off the entail.

The testator died in Nov., 1736. The widow claimed under the will and was paid by the trustees £6 within a month of her husband's death. But she claimed that sum as a legacy, and that it was not to be considered her first year's annuity. The opinion of Mr. Maurice Johnson was asked on this point, and given to the effect that the £6 which the trustees were authorised to pay within a month was not a legacy, but was the first year's income, and that the second year's income would not accrue till after the expiration of a year. This opinion is dated 9 July, 1737.

James Sanders, of Spalding Low Fields, co. Linc., Grasier, dated 6 July, 1785 ; proved at Lincoln 5 Oct., 1786.

To my son Thomas all my freehold, copyhold, and leasehold land, messuages, &c., in Spalding, Weston, and Cowbit, during my wife's life,



subject to an annuity of £50, free from all taxes and deductions, to my dear wife Margaret. She to have power to enter into the said premises charged with payment, if the quarterly payment of the annuity is 20 days behind time. After my wife's death my lands, &c., in Spalding to my daughter Elizabeth Sanders; and to my son Thomas my lands, &c., in Weston, Cowbit, and elsewhere, The annuity to my wife is given "in full Recompence Satisfaction and bar of all Dower and Title of Dower and Thirds at the Common Law." Also to my daughter Elizabeth £300 within twelve months. To my wife one half of all household goods, plate, &c., and to my son Thomas the other half, as well as all my cattle, bills, bonds, securities, &c. Son Thomas sole Exor. Witnesses; Ann Hemsall, Thomas Brown, John Hunnings.

**936.—Manor of East and West Deeping.**—A Commonwealth Deed, of which we give a full abstract, has been lent to us by Mr. J. Phillips, of Stamford. It is an Indenture made the 13th July, 1650, between the Right Honorable the Lady Elizabeth, Countess Dowager of Exeter, late wife of the Right Honorable William, Earl of Exeter, deceased, of the one part, and Francis Snawsell, William Phillips, and Edward Evans, of London, gentlemen, of the other part. After reciting that Sir Henry Holcroft Kt. William Steele Esq. Recorder of the City of London Thomas Coke William Bosevile John Sparrowe William Kenricke Ralph Harrison William Scott Silvanus Taylor Thomas Hubard Cornelius Coke Esquires John Hunt Gent. and Sir Edward Barkham Bart. being persons trusted by an Act of that present Parliament, intituled "an Act of the Comons assembled in Parliament for Sale of the Honors Mannors and Lands heretofore belonging to the late King Queene and prince," for the conveying of such of the Lands Tenements and Hereditaments of the said late King Queene and prince as by the said Act were vested and settled in the said Trustees their heires and assignes in such sort as in the said Act was menconed by Indenture dated the 10th June, 1650, and made betw the said Sir Henry Holcroft Kt. William Steele Esq. Recorder of the City of London Thomas Coke William Bosevile John Sparrowe William Kenricke Ralph Harrison William Scott Silvanus Taylor Thomas Hubard Cornelius Coke Esquires John Hunt Gent. and Sir Edward Barkham Bart. of the one parte and

the s<sup>d</sup> F. Snawsell W. Phillips and E. Evans of the other parte and enrolled in the High Court of Chancery for the consideracons therein expressed did graunte alien bargain and sell unto the s<sup>d</sup> F. Snavsell W. Phillips and E. Evans their heires and assignes All that the Mannor of East and West Deeping with the Rights members and appurtenances thereof lyeing and being in the County of Lincolne, And all those Rents of Assize Quitt Rents and Fines Arbitrary due to the Lord of the aforesaid Mannor from the Freeholders Coppyholders and Customary Tenants within the severall Townshippes of West Deeping Market Deeping and James Deeping holding of the aforesaid Mannor in Free Soccage or by Fynes Arbitrary according to the Customs thereof, And all Court Leetes and Court Barons Fynes Issues Amercam<sup>ts</sup> perquisitts and profitts of the said Courts Fynes upon discent or Alienacon Herriotts Releifes Wayfes Estrayes deodans Felons goods goods of Felons of themselves of Fugitives of Condempned persons Hawking Hunting Fowling Fishing profitts of Fayres and Marketts profitts of a Ferrey and Barre in James Deeping called Waldram Hall Ferrey and Barre, and all other profitts and perquisitts within the said Mannor to the Royaltie thereof belonging or in any wise apperteying. And all that the Scite of the Mannor House in West Deeping aforesaid in the said County of Lincolne with a quantity of Meadowe and pasture called the Spinney abutting upon the Water or River of Welland on the West conteyning by estimacon Threescore and Twoe acres more or less and certaine parcells of Arable land lyeing dispersed in the Comon Fields of West Deeping aforesaid conteyning by estimacon 15 acres more or lesse, and all those parcells of Meadowe lyeing dispersed in the Comon Meadowes of West Deeping aforesaid conteyning by estimacon Nyne acres, and all that Piece of Pasture abutting upon Milne Gateway North conteyning by estimacon Twoe acres more or lesse, and alsoe severall Messuages Cottages Lands Meadowes Pastures Tenements and hereditaments with the appurtenances

in the said recited Indenture particularly menconed (except and always reserved out of the said Bargaine Sale and Conveyance all Impropriacons or Parsonages Appropriate Advowsons Rights of Patronage or presentation to any Parsonage or Viccaridge or Church Donative or presentative) and all such other things as in and by the said Act were saved or excepted or appointed to be saved and excepted or not to be sold. To hold the same (except as excepted) unto and to the use of the said F. Snawsell W. Phillips and E. Evans their heires and assignes as amply as the said Trustees or any of them by the said Act were enabled to convey the same. And by the present Indenture the parties thereto mutually agreed and declared that the said purchase and conveyance was made at the onely costs and charges of the said Elizabeth Countesse of Exeter and that the said F. Snawsell W. Phillips and E. Evans were by the speciall direcon and appointment of the said Eliz<sup>th</sup> Count<sup>s</sup> Dowager of Exeter nominated and made parties to the said Indenture to take the said Estate of the said Mannor Messuages Cottages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments and of all and singular the premises in and by the said recited Indenture conveyed and assured to them the said F. Snawsell W. Phillips and E. Evans their heires and assignes for ever In Trust for the onely benefitt and behoofe of the said Elizabeth Countesse Dowager of Exeter and of her heires and assignes and in noe wise for their own proper benefitt use and behoofe and Upon Trust that they the said F. Snawsell W. Phillips and E. Evans should from time to time make such Leases and Estates of the said premises as the said Countesse should direct and appoint and noe other, and that the fynes to be raised by the making or granting of such Leases and Estates and the rents and profitts of such premises should be had taken and received to the only use of the said Countesse her heirs and assignes. And the usual clauses for reimbursing defraying and indemnifying the said F. Snawsell W. Phillips and E. Evans are contained in the said Indenture.

The Deed, of which the above is an abstract, is endorsed :—  
 “The Declaracon of the Trust for the Countesse of Exeter concerning the Mannor of East and West Deeping dat. the 13<sup>th</sup> of July 1650.”

It would appear that the Manor of Deeping and Lands there were granted to the Lord Treasurer Burghley, and that he was possessed thereof at his death (see Inq: p. mortem set out in Peck's Desid: Cur: Bk. 5, No. 25). The Lord Treasurer's elder son, Thomas, Earl of Exeter, became entitled to the estates by devise or descent, and, by Deed dated 14th February, 1609, granted to the Mayor and Burgesses of Stamford an annuity of £41 1s. 8d., issuing out of the Manor of East and West Deeping, for apprenticing poor children born in Stamford (Charity Reports, Lincolnshire, No. 32, pt. 4, p. 289). On his death, in 1623, his eldest son, William, 2nd Earl of Exeter, would take the Deeping Estates, and his widow, Elizabeth (dau: of Sir William Drury), was the purchaser of the property conveyed by the Deed of 10th June, 1650, to Snawsell, Phillips, and Evans as Trustees for her.

Can any correspondent give the date of the Grant of Deeping Manors by the Crown to the Lord Treasurer Burghley, or the date of the Conveyance to the Crown by the descendants of Elizabeth, Countess Dowager of Exeter, of the Estates purchased by her of the Commonwealth Parliament in 1650?

ED.

**937.—Prebendaries of Ely.**—Were the Canons Residentiary of Ely at one time called Prebendaries? It is usually thought that this latter title belongs exclusively to cathedrals of the old foundation. On the monument in Llangollen church to the memory of the Rev. John Price, D.D., who died in 1772, he is described as “late Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, Rector of Denbigh, and the Sine-cure of Llangwm, Prebendary of Ely upwards of thirty years, and Canon of the Church of S<sup>t</sup>. Asaph.”

H.R.S.

**938.—Drainage of the Great Level (No. 6).—*New Works: The Commissioners' Dinners in 1609.***—In the summer of 1609, the Commissioners of Sewers, “prompted by long experience as by sundry complaints and verdicts of men of good judgment in the fen parts, and being grieved to see the yearly loss and desolation of the country,” resolved to undertake some new works near the junction of the river Cam with the Ouse, and to make a straight channel from Ely Hards to Littleport.

There was a good deal of debate about the power of the Commissioners to tax the country for new works, and to cut off corners and make the crooked rivers straight.\* They thought they had power, and at a Session of Sewers at Ely, 9 June, 1608, resolved to execute the necessary works to convey away the waters which caused the sad inundations of the most fruitful grounds in the upper part of the Isle of Ely, and they ordered, determined and decreed and for a law set down and established :—†

first that all manner of annoyances lets impediments and incroachments whatsoever in the saide river of Ouse from and under the place especiallie where the river of Graunte falleth unto the same neer Harrymeere shalbe whollie removed avoided and clearlie taken awaie And secondlie for the better speedier and redier conveighance of the said surroundinge waters that certeine new trenches and sewers be made in places where the same shalbe most necessarie and expediente Both which works shall be attempted begun continued accomplished and finished with as much speede as possiblie maye be and in manner and forme as hereby is particularlie declared.

2. It is therefore by authoritié aforesaid ordered decreed and for a lawe sett doune and established That whereas there is an elbowe parcell of Barrowaye fenn neere Harrymeere next under the falling of the river of Graunte into the river of Owse there shall be one trench cutt lyne streight by and throughe the said elbowe from river to river conteyninge in length fortie poles or thereabouts and in bredth two pole and in depth according to the rest of the river thereabout and that all the meenor coming forth of the s<sup>d</sup> trench be caste and laid upon the fenn syde there and noe parte thereof to be caste towards the olde river. And that a like trench in bredth and depth conteyninge in length about fiftie poles be likewise made through another elbowe in the fen called Barrowaye middle neere Harrymeere ware and the meenor thereof to be likewise caste towards the fenn.

\* The Crown lawyers (Popham, A. G.) gave their opinion in favour of the power of the Court of Sewers. In 1833, an Act of 3 and 4 Will. IV. c. 22. to remove doubts about the jurisdiction of the C. of S. enacts and declares that they may make and maintain new walls, banks, sewers, guts, gotes, calcies, bridges, tunnels, culverts, sluices, flood-gates, tumbling bays, cuts or other works, aids and defences “according to the wisdom and discretion of the Court.” No such new works to be made without the consent of the owners and tenants of three fourth parts in value of the lands to be charged.

† Add : Ch : 33,089.

And that a trench shalbe newlie caste from the river Owse beginninge as neere Harrymeer as convenientlie may be and extending unto Stuntney Bridge conteyninge in bredth thirtie foote and in depth fouer foote and from thence unto ye river of Ouse contening in bredth thirtie foote and fyve foote in depth and from thence over the said river of Owse through Ely ffennes as neere lyne streight as conveniently may be in such sorte that the same may fall againe into the s<sup>d</sup> river of Owse at or beneath Littleport Chaire, the s<sup>d</sup> sewer to contain in bredth xxxv foote and in depth fyve foote.

Nicholas Massey to be Surveyor Gen<sup>l</sup>.

Sir Miles Sandys, Sir Simeon Steward, Controllers.

The whole scheme was to cost about £1,200. Nicholas Massey was surveyor of the works, and he soon had 200 men cutting through Harrymere Elbow and making a sluice; but one Saturday night in August he was ten pounds short and the bankers had to go home with promises. He notified the worshipful Commissioners that "he had promised full payment on Monday and therefore must needs entreat them to disburse x<sup>li</sup> more for saving his credit and releaving the poor men; that the Constables had money in their hands and only wanted warrant to pay it over."\* This matter he left for their worships' consideration.

The Commissioners were in a difficulty. They had already advanced money out of their own pockets, and now found that the Sheriff refused to enforce the tax they had imposed on the country without their guarantee to secure him against the multiplicity of suits with which he was assailed. They had to stop the works or comply. This they did, and in the result the Crown lawyers gave an opinion in support of the power of the Commissioners of Sewers to tax for new works. They resorted to the Privy Council as usual to get them out of the difficulty.

To the r<sup>t</sup> hon<sup>l</sup> or singuler good lord the Earle of Salisbury  
Lord High Treasurer of England.

Right honorable

Your lordshipp w<sup>th</sup> the reste of the Lords uppon our humble peticon vouchsafed your honorable lres unto the highe Sherife of Cambridgeshire for the levying and payinge such taxes as were imposed by a Law of Sewers towards a newe drayne in great forwardnes wthin the Isle of Ely. Notwithstandinge the Sherife being threatened with multiplicite of sutes by some willfull opposers in this busines, refused to levie the same unlesse wee could give him securitie for his indemnitie in case such somes were recovered of him at the comon law.

\* 12 Aug., 1609.

And wee having sett manye men a worke (upon assurance taken by your Lordshippes lres) wch may not wante their paye, and foreseeing also that the great coste allredie bestowed wilbe all loste unless the worke be perfected before the winter floodds, yeilded to secure him to his contentment. Howbeit wee presume it will not seeme reasonable to yor Lp: that Comissioners proceedinge for a publick good and tyed therto by a stricte othe taken by everie of them, should also be engaged in their privatt state and lefte to the nice points of the comon lawe. And therefore havinge yeilded so farr in case of necessitie to upholde so worthie a worke begoone, wee humblie praie yo<sup>r</sup> lp. will not condemne our follies but rather comforte us therein. And that accordinge to our humble peticon to yor Lp. and the reste of the Lps<sup>s</sup> wee may be freed from the multiplicite of sutes threatned herein and may receive an honorable hearing before yo<sup>r</sup> Lps the rather for that the cause as wee conceive (tendinge to drayne above fiftie thousand acres of riche grounde) more befitteth the State to order then the doubtfull termes of Law. And so w<sup>th</sup> all humble and thankfull acknowledgment of the former favors received from yor lp. herein wee humblie take or leaves from Ely this xvj<sup>th</sup> of October 1609.

Yor Lordshipp humblie to Comaunde

John Peyton	Miles Sandys	Sim: Steward
R. Cox	Umfry Tindall	James Tayler
	Sinolphus Bell*	Best: Betts.†

Harrymere Elbow, as figured on Saxton's map of Cambridge-shire in 1560, must have been a common nuisance.‡ The money was well spent on new cuts, and the outlay on the sluice was small, as this bill of the works shows:—

The accompt of Nicholas Massy of Ely gent. Surveighor gene<sup>r</sup>all of ye works of dreyninge nere ye ryver of Ouse of all somes of money by hym receyved for and concerning ye sayd works from ye feast of S<sup>t</sup> Peter ye Apostle 1609 untill ye<sup>e</sup> eyght day of September then next followinge.

Imp<sup>r</sup>imis ye said accomptant receyved of Rob<sup>t</sup> Cropley gent Ex-penditor for ye sayd works at severall tymes as by ye book of ye sayd Robt. signed w<sup>th</sup> ye hand of this accomptant pticularly appereth .....viij<sup>li</sup>

Sm tot <sup>s</sup>	} viij <sup>li</sup>
on <sup>r</sup> is p <sup>r</sup> dt	

Whereof,

The say <sup>d</sup> accomptant payed unto John Myller 4 <sup>th</sup> Julii and p <sup>t</sup> dct. for pvision of spades .....	iiiij <sup>li</sup>
Itm to Richeson for ye <sup>e</sup> charges of ye say <sup>d</sup> Myller for ye first night after his coming to Ely .....	xviij <sup>d</sup>
Itm p <sup>d</sup> to Humfry ye boatwright for tymber for the sluice viz for xvij foote of plank, one board, one pece of tymber, tarr, heare, clynck and spikes .....	vi <sup>s</sup>
Item to Mychell ye cowleach for a pece of tymber for ye sayd sluice xvij <sup>d</sup> and to Attlesey for carryadge therof to And <sup>r</sup> sedale ij <sup>d</sup> in toto .....	xx <sup>d</sup>

\* A grandson of Sir Robert Bell, Chief Baron temp. Eliz., who married the co-heiress of Edw. Beaupré, and so acquired the manor of Beaupré in Upwell and Outwell.

† S.P. Dom. Jac. I., vol. 48, 107.

‡ Atkins, in his report of 1618, refers to these works: "From Ely the Ouse passes to Littleport in a crooked course making a tract of 10 miles long by water, whereas by land it is but three. About 8 years since to remedy this the C. of S. projected to cutt a straight river from Ely Hards and so line right over the soile to Littleport Chaire, a course of 2 miles. About £1,000 was bestowed on it; but being a new work and not approved of by the better sort about Ely there was means made to stay it."

Itm for iiij <sup>or</sup> coopple of short studds for ye sluce .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	viiij <sup>d</sup>
Itm for helpe to load ye sluce to ye water .....		vj <sup>d</sup>
Itm for Edmund Yarrow for iiij <sup>or</sup> days work about y <sup>e</sup> sluce at xij <sup>d</sup> p diem .....	iiij <sup>s</sup>	
Itm to him for carryadge therof by water .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	
Itm to . . . Dysse for xx <sup>lv</sup> coopple of alders for sessyng at beachmore lake .....	xj <sup>s</sup>	
Itm to Willm Attkyn for carryadge thereof to ye worke .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Itm to John Rypham for paving and laying of ye sluce .....	xxj <sup>s</sup>	
Itm to Godding for helvinge of mattocks and one betle .....		viiij <sup>d</sup>
Sma solucion pr <sup>d</sup> . .....	vii <sup>h</sup>	xiiij <sup>s</sup> iiiij <sup>d</sup>
Et debt. ....	xxvi <sup>s</sup>	viiij <sup>d</sup>

The rendezvous of their honors was at Ely. Governor Peyton, Sir Miles Sandys, Messrs. Tindall, Bell, Athors, Fincham, and Betts were in constant attendance at the Hotel, and as mine host's bills testify, they drank claret at breakfast, at the ordinary, and at dinner too, with plenty of sugar.\*

The dinner bills of the Commissioners are vouched by them to be correct and sent to,

“Or, very lovinge frend Daniell Goodricke Esq Treasurer for the new workes to be done about the ryver of Ouse.”

for your worships dyett the xii<sup>th</sup> of July 1609.

ffor xij comissioners .....	xxxvj <sup>s</sup>	
ffor vij quartes wyne .....	iiij <sup>s</sup>	viiij <sup>d</sup>
ffor sugar.....	ij <sup>s</sup>	
ffor xxiiij of servenmen .....	xij <sup>s</sup>	
quart of whitt wyne sugar .....		xij <sup>d</sup>
ffor horsemeat .....	xj <sup>s</sup>	vj <sup>d</sup>
beere after dinner.....		xij <sup>d</sup>

Sma ..... 3<sup>li</sup>. 8 . 2

Hereof of the statute allowance..... 2<sup>li</sup>. 8<sup>s</sup> .

the rest payed out of our purses.

. . . . . the xvii<sup>th</sup> July.

ffor the ordynarye of xvij being x comissioners .....	xxxiiiij <sup>s</sup>	
ffor xxij servenmen .....	xj <sup>s</sup>	
ffor five quartes clarett wyne .....	iiij <sup>s</sup>	vj <sup>d</sup>
two quartes sacke .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	
sugar .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	iiij <sup>d</sup>
ffor ottes and haye .....	xij <sup>s</sup>	

Sma ..... 3<sup>li</sup>. 5<sup>s</sup> . 10

Hereof of the statute allowance ..... 40<sup>s</sup>

\* Paul Hentzner, a German tourist, in his Itinerarium, sub 1617, says, “The English are more polite in eating than the French, devouring less bread but more meat which they roast in perfection. They put a great deal of sugar in their drink and they are constantly smoking tobacco.” The claret was probably “draft” from the wood. Black glass bottles for wine were first made in Northumberland about 1750, by Hanoverian glass-blowers employed by Lord Delaval. The coarse minerals accounted for the dark colour: now it has to be produced artificially for sake of trade. The “union” has of late crippled the English north country makers, and the chief black bottle works at Woolwich now employ German workmen. A colony of 800 foreigners dwell at the works there.



16<sup>th</sup> of June 1609

ffrydaye dinner ix of your worshippes .....	xx <sup>s</sup>	
wyne and sugar .....	iiij <sup>s</sup>	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Servenmen xvj .....	viiij <sup>s</sup>	
	xxxij <sup>s</sup>	iiij <sup>d</sup>

ffrydaye vyle.

your ordynaryes of eight.....	xvi <sup>s</sup>	
xij men .....	vj <sup>s</sup>	
Claritt wyne, thre quartes .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	
Sugar .....		xijd
Sacke quart.....		xijd
ffyer .....		vjd
	xxvj <sup>s</sup>	vjd

Satterdaye

brackeffast and ffyer.....	ij <sup>s</sup>	vid
ix comissioners ordynarye .....	xxvj <sup>s</sup>	
xiiij servenmen .....	vij <sup>s</sup>	
gallon and quart claritt wyne.....	iiij <sup>s</sup>	iiij <sup>d</sup>
sugar .....		xx <sup>d</sup>
beere after dinner.....		xviij <sup>d</sup>
	xlj <sup>s</sup>	viiij <sup>d</sup>
ffor your worshippes horsmett .....	x <sup>s</sup>	viii <sup>d</sup>
	vli	x <sup>s</sup>
Sma .....		

The Commissioners had a sweet tooth. Sugar to the value of 2s. 4d. at one meal in 1609 astonishes us in the 20th century; but it was the fashion to consume that substance. Then the usual cost of sugar at a christening banquet was £5, so that about £100,000 a year was expended on sugar at christenings. In 1621, the State proposed by Proclamation to restrict this supposed waste of money. Just now the Chancellor of the Exchequer deems the consumer of sugar as a promoter of profitable taxation. L.G.

939.—Whittlesey Registers (930).—Continued from page 180.

MARRIAGES IN ST. MARYES PARISH IN WHITTLESEY. ANO. 168(9?).

Abram Ris & An Thrompton.....	May	29
Samuel Aburn & Sarah Whiteline .....		30
John Hall & Jane Addison.....	June	20
Will Hement & Susanna Leasy.....		29
Tho: Speechly & An Dring .....		30
Geeshon Wilson & Eliz. Mease .....	July	21
John Sansome & Eliz. Johnson.....		2
Will. Wileman & An Lamb .....	Sept.	23
[page torn] & An Renforth .....	Oct.	13
		30
Tho Briggs An Searl.....	Nov.	26
John Downing An Addison.....	Jan.	29
Will Dainteth Frances Briggs.....	Feb.	15
*Will Clipson Jane Butcher .....		27

\* Entered twice.

## MARRIAGES IN ST. MARIES. AN. 1690.

Will Clipson Jane Butcher .....	March	26
Geo. Watson & Mary Bradforth .....	April	12
Will Clark An Richar .....		21
Will Speechly Eliz Setchel .....		30
John Dow Jane Avelin.....	May	18
John Hudson Jane Haynes .....	June	28
Hen. Hurry Margret Thomson .....		30
Tho. Boyce Eliz Marshal .....	July	2
Robert Hainsworth Angel Setchfield.....		7
John Garner Katharin Rizby .....	Aug.	15
John Whitmore Mary Searl.....	June	10
John Edis Margret Baly .....		21
Tho Wildboar Anice James.....	Sept.	4
Will Breather Mary Stavesacre .....		17
Ric Boccock Mary Ax.....		21
Ric Baldwin Susanna Addy.....		26
Matthew Powles Eliz Bishop .....	Oct.	21
Henry Searl Sara Bradford .....	Nov.....	

[Page torn—two entries lost].

## 1691.

Francis Brown & Margret Hewit .....	April	6
Will Smith & X <sup>n</sup> Grant .....		9
Tho Bradford & Eliz Plumer.....		20
Will Aslin & Susanna Pooles.....		21
Will Hurry & Mary Noble .....	May	11
Francis Bud Grace Sharp.....		19
John Loomes Alice Smith .....		30
Will Smith Eliz. Speechly .....	June	30
Rob <sup>t</sup> Spridgeon Mary Townsend .....		31
Edw <sup>d</sup> . Setchfield & Alice Garner .....	Aug.	10
Georg Stona & Mary Cattel .....	Sep.	4
Michael Beal & Abigail Underwood.....		6
John Marsy & Susannah Davie.....		12
Lion Smith Patience Rhodes .....	Nov.	19
Rob <sup>t</sup> Kelful & Jone Sargent .....		30
Gideon de Haye An Squire .....		3
John Hardy & Catharin Jenkinson .....	Dec.	1
Will Speechly & Mary Household .....		20
Rich <sup>d</sup> Loomes & Mary Claxon .....	Jan.	9
Peter Maxy & An Resin .....		8
James Ax Alice Richardson.....		20
Tho Watson & An Speechly .....		21
John Webster Jane Burton .....	Feb.	2

## 1692.

Francis Henson An Harrison .....	April	7
Rich <sup>d</sup> Redforth Eliz Norton .....		24
Zachariah Henson Susan Wildboar .....	May	17
Will Renforth Susan Bamford.....		24
Tho Setchel Frances Hall .....	June	26
Daniel Bullimore Hester Hunt .....	July	17
Will Edees An Symson.....		27
Edw <sup>d</sup> Mendum Susan Conquest .....	Aug.	10
John Jackson An Hardly.....		21
John Parker Mary Foster.....		21

Isaac Verma(.....) Grace Batty.....	Sep.	1
Leonard Errington Mary B(oy)er?.....		14
.....Boyer .....		
[page torn] .....C.....		
John Hudson Eliz Brown.....	Oct.	8
John Ax Eliz Richar.....		30
Matthew Kisby Alice Beard .....	Nov.	6
Will. Roberts An Black.....		6
Edw <sup>d</sup> Speechly & Amy Ground.....		13
Will Yates Eliz Stafford .....	Dec.	18
Will. Lambson Sarah Housdel .....		28
Tho. Bingham Susan Franklin .....	Jan.	15
John Hobbs Joan Winright.....	Feb.	5

## 1693.

Robt Speechly Eliz Avelin .....	March	26
Tho Baty & Bridgit Ragdell .....		30
Robt Speechly & Frances Wells .....		30
Robt Speechly & Frances Wells ( <i>sic</i> ) .....	April	17
Tho. Corby An Randal.....		20
Will. Furley An Goadng.....		23
Jonathan Reding Dorathy Cooper.....	May	9
Francis Drake An Dollington.....	July	6
Jon. Rivet Mary Tomlin .....		12
Edw <sup>d</sup> Hicces & Bridgit [name omitted].....	Sep.	3
Robt Randal Eliz Coy .....		7
Will Wright Susanna Noble .....	Oct.	1
Will Jeweson Faith King.....		5
Tho. Freeman Eliz Parker .....		5
Hen Gibbs Mary Lewin .....		10
Tho. Smith Isabel German .....		22
Will Columbine Eliz. Peak .....	Nov.	5
Hen. Curtis Amy Pain .....		19
Zachariah Henson Eliz Thaker .....	Dec.	26
Hen. Read Mary Underwood .....	Jan.	9
Tho. Jackson Amy Matson .....	Feb.	4

## 1694.

John Bull Mary Furley.....	April	9
John Dagnel An Ward.....		10
Abram Houshold Em Fakener .....	May.....	
Georg Richardson Margret G .....		
Tho Lewin Eliz Bud .....		
.....Susannah .....		

## MARRIAGES DURING THE COMMONWEALTH.

The following 43 Registers of Marriages, contracted before a Justice of the Peace during the Commonwealth, are contained on three loose parchment leaves, much worn and defaced. The writing is almost obliterated, and many of the names have only been deciphered after long and patient scrutiny. There are a few entries of which not a single word can be read, and in several others the writing is much defaced, it is

therefore possible that a name here and there may, upon further investigation, prove to be incorrectly transcribed:—

*Example of form used, set out at length :*

April 23, 1655. Daniell Durbooe and Ellena Beehague of Thorney pish were married before Francis Underwood, Esq., one of the Justices of the Peace for this Isle, in the presence of Peter Beehague father of the saide Ellena, William Head and others, y<sup>e</sup> contract for marriage beinge first published on three severall Lordes dayes in and before the open congregation accordinge to the direction of the Law, in and for that case onely made and provided.

The officiating Justice, with two exceptions, was Francis Underwood.

- Oct.....1654. Richard.....and Elizabeth Wright, in p'sence of William Whitmore.
- Oct.....1654. Thomas Hard.....and.....Plowright, both of this pish, in p'sence of John Laxon and Ralph Searle.
- Oct. 23. 1654. William Harris and Anne Staddeane, both of..... in p'ence of Roger Ground and Thomas Marstone.
- Oct. 26. 1654. Richard Diggle of this pish & Ellenor Woolleman of St. Andrewes pish, in p'sence of Willikin Pycock & Henerye Bennocke.
- Oct. 26. 1654. Robert England and Alice Colles both of St. Andrewes pish, in p'sence of William Burnham and John England the (<sup>brother?</sup><sub>father?</sub>) of the saide Robert.
- .....1654. Francis Licester of St. Andrewes pish and Elizabeth Brigges.
- Nov.....1654. William Hemont and Ursula Scotney (?) in p'sence of William Hemont, father to the saide William, and Francis Harris, brother in law to the saide Ursula.
- Nov.....1654. Henry Searle of this pish and Mary Allen were married before John Castle, Esq., one of the Justices of the Peace for this Isle.
- Nov.....1654. George Plowman and Margery Ba.....both of this pish, in p'sence of William Genby, John Warde & others.
- Nov. 30. 1654. Arthur Chambers and Joane Maxey both of St Andrewes pish, in p'sence of Ralph Freeman, Richard Chambers, & others.
- Dec. 7. 1654. William Maxey, sen<sup>r</sup>. and Susan Searle, both of this towne, in p'sence of Thomas (Ash?)ston and Ralph Searle.
- Dec. 7. 1654. Thomas Woolleman and Elizabeth Jorden, both of this pish, in p'sence of Oliver Burrige, George.....
- Dec. 12. 1654. John Withrew (Withren?) of this pish & Elizabeth .....hley of St. Andrewes pish in p'sence of..... Freeman, Thomas Freeman & others.
- Dec. 14. 1654. William Avelin and Jane (New?)combe, both of this pish.
- .....1654. John Serg(eant?) and Agnes Houshold, both of ..... in p'sence of William Houshold, the father of the saide Agnes, William Bayley & others.
- .....1654. Richard Ward of this pish and Isabell Ma..... of March in p'sence of Thomas Gerard (?) and Ralph Ward, father of the saide Richard.

- Jan. 23. 1654. James White and Frances Dunsmore both of this pish in p'sence of William Quicklove and William Parsons.
- Jan. 23. 1654. Robert Frith of March, and Elizabeth Searle of this pish in p'sence of William Quicklove & William Parsons.
- Jan. 23. 1654. Tho(?) Mease and Elizabeth Reade, both of this pish in p'sence of John Lambe, John Speechly and others.
- Feb.....1654. George Lambe of St. Andrewes pish and Alice Bonnarbe were married before Tristriano Diamond one of the Justices of the Peace for this Isle, in the p'sence of Speechly La....., William Mash & others.
- March 29. 1655. George Urwande and Alice Browne both of this pish, in p'sence of Thomas Bowes, Thomas Holdinge & others.  
Guliel Selbye, Register.
- April 16. 1655. John Wild (Wiles?) and Anne Henson both of this pish in the p'sence of William D....., Thomas B.....
- April 23. 1655. Daniel Durbooe and Ellena Beehague of Thorney pish in p'sence of Peter Beehague father of the saide Ellena, William Head & others.
- April 23. 1655. John Gowey and Marye Behague of Thorney, in p'sence of Peter Beehague father to the said Marye, William Head, &c.
- April 26. 1655. Steven Tookey and Jane Fawne both of this pish, in p'sence of Henrye....., William Laxon & others.
- May 8. 1655. William White and Francis Dawbie both of St Andrewes pish, in p'sence of Thomas Dawbie father to the saide Frances, and Ralph Dawbie her brother.
- May.....1655. R..... Rowthorne of this pish and Joane (Chapman ?) of St. Andrewes pish, in p'sence of Thomas James and Adam Fovargue (?)
- May.....1655. Moore (?) Sandell and Elizabeth Jarnelle (?) both of this pish.
1655. James G.....tian of Yaxley and ..... Drinkwater of this pish, in p'sence of John Parker, Thomas Carter, &c.
- .....29. 1655. James Ab(urn?) and Abigail Garner both of this pish in p'sence of George Garner, William Heames, &c.
1655. Ralph Corby and Mary Powell both of this pish, in p'sence of John Corbie father to the saide Ralph, William ..... &c.
1655. Ralph Searle and Alice Ground, both of this pish, in p'sence of Ralph Searle father of the saide Ralph, and Robert Ground father of the saide Alice.
1655. Ralph L..... of this pish and Anice Newman of St Andrewes pish.
- June 7. 1655. .... and Elizabeth Addis both of this pish.
- July.....1655. .... and Elizabeth Curtis.
- July 1. 1655. John Garner and ..... Bartell both of this pish.
1655. Thomas Gibbs and ..... in p'sence of Roger Gibbs father to the saide Thomas .....
- July 9. 1655. (R)obins Carter and Ursula Barker both of this pish, in p'sence of George Garner, Ralph Avelinge, & others.
- July 10. 1655. William Butcher and Elizabeth Pinkeson, in p'sence of Thomas Davie, Lawrence Searle, & others.

- July 12. 1655. Robert Henson of Yaxley and Anne Ley of Wittlesea St. Andrewes, in p'sence of Edward Hurrey, Thomas Cooper, &c.
- July 17. 1655. John Fountaine and Frances Wright, both of this pish, in p'sence of Thomas Wright father to the saide Frances and John Fountain, (.....?) to the said John.
- July 17. 1655. Thomas Fish and Ellenor Hauldinge both of Wittlesea St. Andrewes pish, in p'sence of Adrian Fayrebrother ..... Rowthorne, and divers others.
- July 18. 1655. Richard Charrington and Joane Hall, both of this pish in p'sence of Richard Hall, brother of the saide Joane.

**940.—Gild of S. Wyndreda at March.**—A gild at March certified in A.D. 1393 to have possessions to the value of eight shillings and nine pence fulfilled a more important duty than the value of the estate would indicate. It illustrates mediæval life in the Fens, and affords a precedent which might be followed with advantage now. A burial club relieves much distress. Such gilds still prevail in the Roman Catholic community. Those who can promote the extension of the practice to the mass of the people will confer a great boon on society. Dwellers amid the vast population of London have experience of “the solitude of a great city,” and wonder who will, for charity's sake, look after their burial.

The following is from the certificate of Gilds in the Record office, 12 Ric. II.

March.

Memorandum quod in villa de March in Insula Eliensi ex antiquo tempore fuit quedam Gilda in honore sancte Wyndrede virginis que ibidem translata est in Capella. Et hec est convencio inter fratres et sorores predictæ gilde quod predicta gilda inveniet duos cereos ardentés in festivis diebus coram feretro predictæ sancte et unum cereum ardentem in levacione corporis Christi. Item si frater vel soror obierit a predicta villa per iter unius diei fratres gilde predictæ ministrabunt sepulturam ejus ex expensis predictæ gilde si ille qui obiit non habuerit unde ex expensis propriis poterit sepelliri. Item omnes fratres et sorores convenient ad sepulturam fratris aut sororis et pro anima ejus offerent et quilibet eorum faciet celebrari unam missam pro anima ejus et quilibet eorum pro anima ejus dabit j quadrantem pauperibus. Item predictam gildam fratres sustinebunt secundum suam possibilitatem. Et si predicta gilda defecerit per pestilenciam vel per aliquam aliam destrucconem catalla predictæ gilde dabuntur fabrice Capelle de March.

Memorandum quod catalla Gilde sancte Wyndrede de March extenduntur ad viij<sup>s</sup> ix<sup>d</sup>.

March.

Be it remembered that in the town of March within the Isle of Ely was of old established a gild in honour of Saint

Wyndreda the Virgin which is removed to the Chapel there. And the brothers and sisters of the aforesaid gild have agreed to this rule, that the gild shall provide two wax tapers to burn on festival days before the bier of the aforesaid Saint, and one wax taper to burn at the elevation of Corpus Christi. Moreover if a brother or sister shall die when at one day's journey from the town aforesaid the brothers of the gild shall solemnize his or her burial at the charge of the gild, if he or she who died had no means whereby to defray the cost of burial. Also all the brothers and sisters shall meet together at the burial of a brother or sister and shall make an offering for his or her soul ; and each of them shall cause one mass to be celebrated, and each of them shall give one farthing to the poor, for the soul of the deceased. Also the brothers shall support the aforesaid gild to their utmost ; and if it shall fall into decay by reason of pestilence, or any other source of failure, the goods thereof shall be given towards the fabric of the Chapel of March.

Saint Wyndreda is probably the famed British Virgin Martyr S. Wenefride, who dwelt at Holy Well, still a resort of the afflicted. Her festival day was on the 22nd of June, afterwards removed to the 3rd of November on account of some translation of her body. L.G.

**941.—Moulton, Lincolnshire : Cole's MSS. (931).—**Evidences for the Prior for the receipt of six marks from the Vicarage of Multon, and of three stone of wax. Sentence of restitution for the Prior against the Vicar.

Proceedings in the Church of the Blessed Peter at Arches, Lincoln, on Saturday next after the feast of S. Matthew the Apostle, A.D. 1314, before us the official of the Lord (*Domini*) Archdeacon of Lincoln, in a cause which is debated before us between the religious men the Prior and Convent of Spalding, plaintiffs, appearing by William de Weston, clerk, their proctor, of the one part, and Sir (*Dominum*) Michael, per-

petual Vicar of the Church of Multon, defendant, appearing by John, son of Thomas de Stanford, clerk, deputy of Henry de Langeton, clerk, principal proctor of the said Vicar, of the other part: namely, since it appeared to us by previous proceedings that the said day and place were appointed to the parties aforesaid to hear the final sentence in the said cause, we, the Official aforesaid, have proceeded in this manner.

In the name of God, Amen. Since the religious men the Prior and Convent of Spalding, being possessed of the Church of Multon in Hoiland to their own use, have sued before us, the Official, Michael de Littleport, Vicar of Multon, concerning a certain annual pension of four pounds of usual money, and also concerning a certain annual tribute or oblation of three stone of wax to be paid annually to the said religious by the aforesaid Vicar, the declaration of the Convent being exhibited to the same Vicar on behalf of the religious, under this form: In your presence, Sir Judge, the Proctor of the Prior and Convent of Spalding says and proposes against Sir Michael de Littleport, Vicar of Multon, that although the same religious his Lords were in possession or as it were had the right of receiving an annual pension of four pounds and an annual oblation of three stone of wax from a time the memory of which to the contrary does not exist, yet the said Michael, during the year last past, unduly withheld the said annual pension and oblation, and took no care to pay them, despoiling the said religious of their possession, to the danger of his own soul, and to the pernicious example of others. Wherefore the said proctor seeks that the aforesaid religious may by you, Sir Judge, be definitely by sentence restored to their possession, and that the said Vicar may be condemned in the things withholden, to be declared in the sequel, and compelled to pay, &c. And he produced witnesses on the part of the said religious, &c. We therefore, the Official, since we have found that the said religious, as well by the answers made by the said Vicar, as by the proofs produced before us on the



part of the said religious, have sufficiently established their claim, do restore the said religious to the possession which they held, and decree that the Vicar be compelled to the payment of this annual pension and oblation of wax for the future, and to make satisfaction for the things withholden, as far as he shall be able to do so, condemning the said Vicar, justice so demanding, in the expenses incurred by the religious in the said cause, the taxation whereof we reserve to ourselves. Done at the day, place, and year, aforesaid.

Cole MS., 43, 324-5.

Charter of Conan son of Elias de Holebeche concerning the Church of Holbeche, from which the Prior and Convent of Spalding receive nothing.\* To all the sons of Holy Mother Church as well present as to come Conan son of Elias de Holebech sends greeting in the Lord. Know all that I have granted, given, and by this present charter have confirmed to God and the Blessed Mary, and the blessed Nicholas, of Spalding, and to the Monks there serving God, in free, pure, and perpetual alms, the Church of Holbeche, with all its appurtenances, to have and to hold, freely, quietly, peacefully, and entirely, for ever, and to confer it when vacant upon whomsoever they may wish. Wherefore I will that the aforesaid Monks may have and hold the aforesaid Church as freely and as entirely as any alms may be more freely and quietly held, free and quit of me and my heirs for ever, so that from henceforth we can claim no right in it, neither in gift nor in any other thing belonging to the Church aforesaid. And I Conan and my heirs will warrant the Church aforesaid with all its appurtenances as our free, pure, and perpetual alms against all people. These being witnesses, Thomas and

\* I give this extract from Cole's MSS. which more directly concerns Holbeach than Moulton. My reason for doing so is, it gives me an opportunity of correcting an error I made in a work I published on Whaplode Church. When I stated Holbeach Church was built by Croyland Abbey, I did so without consulting my notes, and hence my error in accepting what was the popular belief in the locality, that it was one of Croyland's Churches. I do not think Holbeach Church was built by either Spalding or Croyland Monks.

Hervis, Chaplains of the same town, William, Rector of the Church of Holbeche, and others.

“I have much shortened this verbose sentence. Aug. 3: my nominal Birth Day in 1714. W<sup>m</sup> Cole, A:M: Cantabr., 1772. Milton near Cambridge, Monday.”

Cole MS., 43, 410-1.

Proposition made at the Visitation of the Bishop of Lincoln, Diocesan of the place, by the Prior and Convent of Spalding, for the Churches appropriated by them, and for the Pensions and Portions which they receive in other parishes, founded upon the pronouncement of the Archbishop (which is above in the third part third folio).

In the name of God Amen. Before you, reverend Father and Lord, the Lord N. (?) by the grace of God Bishop of Lincoln visiting in person the archdeaconry of Lincoln, or your Commissary or your Commissaries whomsoever, the Proctor of the religious men the Prior and Convent of the monastery of Spalding, who possess to their own uses the Churches of Spalding, Pyncebek, Multon, Weston, and Hautebarge, and annual pensions, viz., from the Church of Multon six marks, &c., (as in the last,) and also canonically receive portions of the tithes in the parishes of Bettisford and Wellesthorp, in alleging, exhibiting, or proposing, says, and lays down as a matter of right (*in jure proponit*), that whereas the aforesaid religious have been called upon at another time before the Archbishop of Canterbury, visiting the diocese of Lincoln in his right of Metropolitan in manner and form as in the present visitation, by his judge competent in the matter, to exhibit and shew the titles and rights, if they had any, in the appropriation of the Churches aforesaid, and in the receiving of pensions and portions of tithes aforesaid, as now, reverend Father, they have been cited before you or your Commissaries, and lawfully exhibited their muniments and documents regarding the appropriation of the said Churches, and the

receiving of the aforesaid pensions and portions, and also submitted and legally proved a certain exemption of prescription as to the possession and receiving of the Churches, pensions, and portions aforesaid from time to time immemorial, and the said Lord Archbishop, having full knowledge of the cause required by law in this matter, proceeding justly and lawfully in this case, after summoning those who ought to be summoned in the matter, by sentence and definite pronouncement declared to the Bishop of Lincoln and other ordinaries of the places interested therein, who were acquainted with all and singular the premisses, and allowed the same, and silently and expressly admitted them, that the said religious were and are sufficiently protected as to the appropriations of the Churches aforesaid, and that the aforesaid religious lawfully and canonically possessed them and held them. Which sentence being suspended by no appeal or question (*querela*) is transmitted as a matter adjudged (*in rem judicatam*), on which account, having proved what was necessary to be proved, the aforesaid religious ought to be discharged from impeachment of your Visitation, and from your examination in this matter, and this the brother the said Proctor asks for, on the same ground as above when laying down the premisses, that he should not be compelled conjointly or separately to the proof of all and singular the premisses, but that he should obtain so much as he shall in whole or in part have proved.

“I have transcribed the whole, except the Towns Names & Pensions, which are word for word the same as in the last Deed.”

Cole MS., 43, 362.

Charter of the Bishop of Lincoln made to the Prior respecting the appropriation of the Churches of Spalding, Pine' [Pinchbeck], Multon, and Hautebarge.

To all the faithful in Christ and to the sons of Holy Mother Church, Robert, by the grace of God, Bishop of Lincoln sends greeting. We provide usefully for the Church of God when we assign its benefices to fitting persons for pious uses.

Wherefore having good confidence in the religion as well as the honesty of our beloved sons H. the Prior and the monks of Spalding, we grant, confirm, and by the attestation of our seal corroborate, the Churches of Spalding, Pincebek, Multon, and Hautebarg, with all their appendages, to the Church of S. Nicholas of Spalding, and the monks there serving God, to hold them for the support of the poor, guests, and infirm, to their own use in perpetual alms ; saving in all things the right and dignity of the Church of Lincoln. Witness, Henry, Archdeacon of Huntingdon.

“This was Bp. Robert de Chesney, who was Bp. from 1147 to 1167. But the date may be more exactly ascertained, as the great writer Henry of Huntingdon, Archdeacon of Huntingdon, died about 1149. Herbertus was then Prior of Spalding.” Cole MS., 43, 328.

W. E. FOSTER.

942.—**Woad** (836).—In a notice of the proceedings of the British Archæological Association in *The Athenæum* of 30 Nov., 1901, occurs the following:—

The paper of the evening was by Dr. Plowright, of King's Lynn, and was read in his absence by Mr. Astley. It dealt exhaustively with the archæology of woad from the earliest times down to the beginning of the nineteenth century. It was well illustrated by drawings and photographs of woad mills and implements connected with its manufacture, both in this and other European countries, and copious references to the chief books on the subject. The earliest mention of woad as the source of a blue dye colour occurs in the classics, the most familiar being that of Cæsar in his Commentaries. Pomponius Mela and Pliny also refer to it. At the opening of a barrow at Sheen, near Hartington, some years ago, a considerable quantity of woad-indigo was found in lumps and in powder, the grave probably being that of a dyer. Frequent reference is made in ancient documents to the sale of woad, or “wad,” as it was then called, and still is by the woad-grower of the fenlands of East Anglia. There is a roll preserved in the records of the borough of King's Lynn, dated 1243, setting forth the dues payable upon various commodities, in which “woad,” or “wad,” is included. There is one locality in England where woad is still regularly cultivated for dyeing purposes, viz., the fenland districts of Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire.—An interesting discussion followed the paper, in which Mr. Forster, Mr. Gould, Mr. C. J. Williams, and others took part, the Chairman remarking that woad was at first called “glastum” or “glast.” Glastonbury, or with the Saxons Glastingbury, having a reference to it; and at Bridgewater, in Somersetshire, there used to be a large trade carried on in woad.

W. J. L.

**943.—James Wyldbore.**—To which member of the family were these lines of Dean Duport addressed? They were published in the year 1676. He was probably a relative, if not a direct ancestor, of the Member of Parliament for Peterborough, Matthew Wyldbore, who died in 1781, the monumental inscription to whom at S. John's Church, Peterborough, is given in Art. 228.

*Ad Jacobum Wyldborum Theologum, & in Agro Huntingtoniensi Verbi Ministrum.*

Præda feris, *Jacobe*, caves nè vinea\* fiat,  
*Sylvestrem* & verbi cuspidè figis aprum.  
*Venantoduni* dum sic *venaris* in agro,  
 Non jam *agrestis aper*, sed *Meleagrus* eris.

This may be roughly translated as follows:—

O James, thy vineyard thou dost never yield  
 To be a prey to wild beasts of the field :  
 Armed with the weapon of the Word of God,  
 Thou dost transfix the wild boar of the wood.  
 Thou art, while hunting in the Hunting-shire,  
 No Wild-boar, but a Meleager dire.

Readers may be reminded that Meleager was a celebrated hero who slew the wild boar sent by Diana to lay waste the country of Æneus, his father, King of Ætolia. H.R.S.

**944.—Cromwelliana: A Missing Cromwell.**—The prolonged life of Sir Oliver Cromwell, of Hinchinbrook and Ramsey, makes him a land mark in fen history. He died in 1655 at the age of 93, and as he and his brothers each gave the name of Oliver to one boy, there were four contemporary Oliver Cromwells in England; hence the Cromwell cousinry is perplexing, and errors have occurred in spite of "a pedigree measuring eight feet by two feet four," for the accuracy of which the Rev. Mark Noble avouches.† Sir Oliver must have been rich at one time, but he charged his estates heavily and sold his ancestral home, Hinchinbrook, in 1627. Before that he had gone to live at Ramsey all the year round; he could

\* Ps. 80, 13.

† Memoirs of the Protectoral House of Cromwell, 2 vols., 8<sup>o</sup>, 1787. T. Carlyle says of the author, "a man of extreme imbecility," but ransacks his books for information.

not spend much money there. His financial embarrassments are attributed to expenditure about the entertainment of King James, but that King seems to have paid for his dinners with charity lands, which were granted to the nominees of Sir Oliver.\* In 1601, Sir Oliver married Anne, widow of Sir Horatio Palavicino, who had been employed by Queen Elizabeth to raise money to enable the Queen to finance the States of Holland and Brabant in their contest with the Spaniards. The sum of £28,000 was due to Sir Horace and his brother, and arrears of interest from 1593 to 1606, at 10 per cent., more than doubled their claim against the Crown. Of that, £15,000 were due to Sir Oliver in right of his wife.† In 1606, King James granted a pension of £700 a year to Sir Oliver in lieu of his wife's interest in Palavicino's debt,‡ although it was alleged that her right to enjoy any benefits ceased with her widowhood. The following account of the exchange by a principal clerk of the Treasury was furnished to Sir Julius Cæsar, who was largely concerned in the royal revenue:—§

Sir,

Mr. Secretary desires you to send for Sir Oliver Cromwell to examine him about the particulars of the Parsonages and Chanteries wch the King passed away for the release of that debt, wherein I understand that his Maty was extremely deceived having passed away 5 or 600<sup>li</sup> a yeare old

\* He was Knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1598, and made Kt. of the Bath by King James. His death happened 28 Aug., 1655. No Commissioner of Sewers in the Fenland has left a more ample record of his work. On May 10, 1605, he signed the certificate to the Privy Council that the scheme of draining the fens was feasible and without peril to any person.

† Anne, daughter of Giles Hooftman, of Antwerp, married H. Palavicino in 1593. His residence was at Babraham, Cambs. He was of a distinguished Genoese family. Queen Mary deputed him to collect the Papal tenths. At that Queen's death, having a large sum in hand, he abjured Romanism and lent a part of his money to Queen Elizabeth: hence it was said "he robbed the Pope to lend the Queen." His son Tobias married Jane, daughter of Sir Oliver by his first marriage, and Sir Oliver's eldest son Henry married Sir Horatio's daughter Baptina. Babraham P. Regr. Sir H. P. ob. July 6, 1600. widow married to Sir O. C. 1601. When Sir Horatio was on his death bed, he sent for Mr. Adams to alter his will, upon whose coming to his bed side, Sir H. said, "I feel divers tokens of death and doubt the convulsions and therefore think good to take time whilst it lasts"; then said to my lady, his wife, "keepe you this last parchment will until Mr. Adams and I have done for it concerneth you speciallie"; and to me, "Mr. Adams, shall I write *revocatur* upon this last will." "Nay, good Sir," said I, "it is fit you have one will on foote until you have made an other." "Hereupon I went into the schoole chamber and began to write the beginning of a new will, but when I came to know his minde for ye setting downe of ye legacies and to conferre of ye residewe he was not in case to be further talked with at all." Dom. Eliz., 275, 23. So the old will stood. Sir Horatio fitted out a ship against the Spanish Armada at his own cost.

‡ Dom. Jac. I., 22, 54.

§ Sir Julius Cæsar, als. J. C. Aldemare, 1558-1636. Sir Julius's father, Cæsare Aldemare, an Italian Physician, was naturalized in 1555. Sir Julius was Master of the Rolls in 1614, and his son held the same office in 1639.

rent for ye same wch cannot be now less worth then 20 tymes the valem. I am promised the copie of Sir Horatio Palavicino's will by wch that point will be cleare wch the judge of the Admiralty told yor honor and mee of, that Palavicino's wyfe was noe longer executor then shee kept herself unmarried, and then the getting of so much from the King for discharge of that debt wch was none of hers will prove a meere Cosnage. And I heare besydes that to colour the matter the better these Parsonages and Chantrey lands to the valem afforesaid were passed for the most part in other mens names and not all in Sir Oliver Cromwells but in the names of Bingley, Blake, Underwood, Harrison, Bulbeck, Holland and others; and it is supposed that they passed much more then their warrant wold beare. Those things being duly examined and found true and all parties interested called in question I thinke it will bring the King more money then we clayme out of fflanders wch I leave to yo<sup>r</sup> honors better considercon being redy to attend you eyther about this or any other thing wch it shall plesse you to comand mee And rest ever. Yor Hon<sup>r</sup> alwaies ready to doe you service

Tho. Wilson.

ffrom ye office of H. Ma<sup>ts</sup> Papers for busines  
of State, 15 Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1619.

It is not easy to account for Sir Oliver's difficulties in King James' reign. He was an ardent royalist, so the inheritance after the Commonwealth was of small value to his successor, Sir Henry, the eldest son of his first marriage, who survived his father but two years.\* Of Sir Oliver's second marriage there were two sons, Oliver, who was accidentally killed at Rome when on a visit to his Palavicino cousins, and Giles, of whom Noble says, "Of Giles I find nothing, probably he died young and unmarried"; but it appears that he became a soldier, serving in Flanders, and in the service of the Queen of Bohemia, daughter of James I. Gerdayn, a notary public at the Hague, furnished to Sir Oliver the annexed certificate of the burial of Giles, in Flanders, in 1634:—

Upon ye 22<sup>th</sup> of May 1634 was after the buriall of ye well borne gentleman M<sup>r</sup> Giles Cromwell of blessed memorie this testament, being shut and sealed, opened and read in ye presence of ye well borne gentleman M<sup>r</sup> Alexander de Zoete, lord of Villars, the next friend of blood unto ye deceased here in ye land, together with ye honourable Colonel Herbert, Knight, Sir Jacob Asteley, Knight, lieutenant-Colonel, M<sup>r</sup> Henry Cromwell and Peter Fanius who all have subscribed and was written, A<sup>r</sup> Zoete de Villars, He. Herbert, Jacob Asteley, Henry Cromwell, P. Fanius and were signed with four seales in red hard wax.

\* He was much troubled by creditors: Sep. 18, 1657, buried at Ramsey. Married 1st Battina Palavicino, 2nd Lucy Dyer. His daughter Carina, baptised at Ramsey Sep. 5, 1622, married Will. Hetley. Noble says he saw Mr. Hetley, of Alwalton, who was not able to trace his descent; but Major Hetley, who lived in London, was sprung from the marriage, and possessed fine full-length portraits of the Cromwells. Another daughter Elizabeth married Henry English. They had a suit against the D. of York about their right to the Coquinary and Glasmere. The forfeited lands of regicides were granted by Charles II. to his brother.

Lady Anne must have ended her life sorrowfully at Ramsey; her daughter Baptina pre-deceased her, and then when she was preparing to greet beloved Oliver, came a message of his death.\* Among the entries in the inventory of the jewels, plate, and apparel of Lady Anne, taken in 1626, are these:—

In my ladie's closet.

In the barred trunk-boxe.

In a round white boxe superscribed for Oliver Cromwell 4 jacobius 22<sup>s</sup> and 29 smaller peeces of silver and dollars.

in 2 boxes superscribed for Anna Cromwell divers peeces of gold and silver untold but viewed by my Master.

in a box superscribed for Giles Cromwell certaine peeces of silver and gold untold but viewed.

in a box superscribed for Batt: certaine silver and gold peeces untold but viewed.

My Master advised that the boxes superscribed for Mr. O. C and little Mrs. Batt: in regard they were both dead should be equally divided amongst the three. The keys of these things is comited to my Mr<sup>rs</sup> keeping.

Lady Anne's death happened on 23rd April, 1626. She enjoyed the privilege of disposing by will of her property, hence the inventory. She seemed to have owned all the household stuff at Ramsey, for there are some 1,300 entries of the contents of large chests which were placed about the house, under the pictures of her children. The good lady had not the heart to touch the trinkets she had in days full of hope bestowed on her beloved ones. The will of Giles Cromwell, whose disappearance has bothered genealogists, is as follows:—

In the name of God Amen. Upon this present seventh day of the moneth of March in the yeare of the same our Lord one thousand six hundred and thirtie three. I Giles Cromwell setting before mine eyes and taking into consideration the uncertaintie of man's life the many alterations we are subject unto and that there is nothing more certaine than temporall death, yet nothing more uncertaine than the houre thereof, have out of mine owne free will and absolute power, not persuaded or misled thereunto in any manner by any, thought good to dispose of the present goods which Almighty God hath lent unto me in this world and therefore have declared and ordained and by these presents doe declare and ordaine this for my last will in manner as here followeth. And first I commend my soul as it shall depart out of my bodie into the mercifull hands of Almighty God mine only maker redeemer and saviour, and my bodie decently to be buried in the earth, there as in a bed chamber to waite for ye blessed resurrection at the last day. After that I have revoked and frustrated and I doe revoke and frustrate by these presents all other

\* This seems to have happened in 1625. He was a student in the University of Padua in 1618. An Italian historian mistakes him for the Protector.



wills codicills or other deeds which before this time I have made and ordained in England or elsewhere, not willing that the same after my death shall come into any respect or consideration, but disposing now anew I have bequeathed given and ordained and I doe bequeath give and ordain by these presents unto my sister M<sup>rs</sup> Anna Cromwell wife unto Mr. John Baldwine and to the foure children of my sister M<sup>rs</sup> Mary Cromwell of blessed memorie late wife unto Mr. Edward Rolte that after my decease, each for halfe the children representing the place of ye mother, in absolute possession all the goods which are come unto me either by testament or otherwise left unto me by the death and gift of mine uncle Sr Cornelius Hooftman Knight of blessed memorie and by my cosen Mr Gerrard van Randerode otherwise Vander Aa, Lord of Sevender of blessed memorie consisting in woods and lands part in Brabant, part in Zeland, as likewise in readie monies rights and debts, none of these excepted, together with all that will come to my portion or share out of ye right I have of the goods not yet distributed of mine uncle or cosen of Nispen of blessed memorie, and oute of a suite of lawe against the Commissioners of Gelderland, with the arrerages standing upon ye same. Provided by these presents that if it shall happen the foresaid my sister M<sup>rs</sup> Anna Cromwell without leaving behind her lawfull heires, all the goods which she shall inherit by vertue of this testament shall againe come unto my cosen and Godsonne Mr Giles Rolte whom I ordaine and appoint therunto (in case it shall so fall out). Also it is my will that if it happen that all the foure children of my foresaid sister M<sup>rs</sup> Mary Cromwell of blessed memorie to depart this life without lawfull descent or issue that then all the goods which they shall have inherited from me shall come unto my foresaid sister M<sup>rs</sup> Anna Cromwell or to her children, yet in the mean time they shall have power to sell all the goods, rights, debts, to alienate and turn them into monies but that which shall come from them they shall be bound to lay the same upon purchase in England. Item I have bequeathed and ordained and I doe bequeath and ordaine by these presents first unto ye children of my brother Palavicino the summe of one thousand Carolus guilders at fortie halfe stivers the gulder flemish monie. Item unto my brother Mr. William Cromwell the summe of five thousand Carolus guilders which if he shall depart this life without children shall come unto my brother Mr. John Cromwell. Unto William Much and Edmond Pue my servants to each 500 guilders. Item unto Peter Jamies secretarie of Browershaven for some consideration me therunto moving the summe of three hundred Carolus guilders. Item to the poor of the place where I was born an hundred guilders. Item to ye Ladies of honor unto her Mat<sup>ie</sup>. of Bohemia and to her Mat<sup>ies</sup> Gentlemen my fellowes in all amongst them eight hundred guilders.\* Item to my cosen van Sevender an hundred guilders. And last to my cosen Margereta van Vosbergen an hundred guilders. And unto all my other goods which I shall leave behind me whersoever they now be or shall be found to be (all and every the foresaid legacies being paid and fully satisfied), I have appointed and named mine onely and universal heire, and doe soe appoint and name by these presents

\* Elizabeth, daughter of James I., married in 1612 to the Elector Palatine, was for a short time Queen of Bohemia. Old Sir O.C. writes to H.M. in 1623, "I herein testify my bounden deutie of thankfullness for ye many graces and favors you have been pleased to confer upon my children yor most humble true and faithfull servants, but how I am cast downe now in my old age by ye base name of yor dogstealer, I leave unto yor maties puer judgment." Dom. Jac. I. v. 157. And to the King, "I humbly beseech yor Mat<sup>ie</sup> that you will be pleased to peruse these few lines. I am olde, my children at men's estates. My humble sute unto yor Mat<sup>ie</sup> is that you wilbe pleased to give warrant unto my lo: Trear: to give me satisfaction eyther in land or money for these reasons. My creditors have forborne me upon the expectation of the end of this business wch would inable me, now call upon me to my discredit, and my freinds and neighbors at home say I stand not in yor Mat<sup>ies</sup> favor as I have always told them to my disgrace." Ib. vol. 137, 41.

mine aforesaid brother Mr John Cromwell, all others exempted. The which my brother I desire that presently after my decease shall enter into possession of all my goods and shall pay all and every that I have above ordained and that of the remainder of my goods (as before I have said) he shall have full and absolute possession in such manner as that he may alienate and sell ye same as his owne goods without the gainsaying of any man. Provided always that if my said brother shall happen to die without lawful issue that then all and whatsoever he hath inherited from me, and whatsoever monies shall have risen from ye goods which he may have sold (under which are likewise included the five thousand guilders which by the decease of my brother Mr. William Cromwell without children he may have inherited) shall come unto his wife (if he shall leave any behind him) during her life and if she shall depart this life, or if he shall leave no widow behind him, it is my will and ordinance that all the said goods shall come unto my brother Mr. William Cromwell and after his decease to his children and the children of my sisters Mrs Anna and Mary Cromwell every one a third part. All that is above said I declare for my last will and testament which I desire after my decease without lawful issue (and not otherwise) to be taken and held for such and that out of the power thereof as a testament, codicill or any other manner of giving as may best stand by lawe. And to this end I renounce all priviledges customes and other benefites and waies of right which may any way hinder this my will and especially herewith the customes of England and Brabant so far as they may prejudice the same. Also I desire not that any man (whosoever he be) shall thereby in any manner of way help himself. And that this my will may with better power be observed I have ordained and authorised and by these presents do ordain and authorise my aforesaid brother Mr John Cromwell and Peter Jamies secretarie of Browsershaven executors of this my testament with conditions that if it shall happen that any of my freindes and heires shall doe or attempt anything against this my will in any manner of way directly or indirectly, that then they shall forfeite all and whatsoever they shall or should have inherited by vertue hereof the whole shall come unto ye rest that shall be obedient hereunto. All this done in 'SGravenhaghe the day moneth and yeare above written. And I have caused this my present testament to be written, ye same have read myself, and with mature deliberation and good understanding understood and sealed with mine usuall seale. Giles Cromwell.

**945.—News Letter, 1716.**—I send a letter to Dean Kennett that is preserved in the Lansdowne Collection in the British Museum (990: Bp. Kennett's MSS. Vol. 56, p. 116). In the index it is entered thus:—"A Letter of News to D<sup>r</sup>. Kennett, then Dean of Peterb. from D<sup>r</sup>. Reynolds then in waiting at Court." Dr. Reynolds was one of the prebendaries, and when Dean Kennett was appointed Bishop, succeeded him at the Deanery. He became ultimately Bishop of Lincoln. The letter shews that he was one of the King's chaplains. His "Sister Ball" was his wife's sister. She was Anne, eldest daughter of Bishop Cumberland, who married (at the Cathedral, 7 Oct., 1697), Thomas Ball, Rector of Gretford,

who was made Prebendary of Peterborough the same year. Dr. Reynolds married Sarah, the Bishop's second daughter.

It is curious to find that some of the Peterborough clergy were suspected of conspiring against King George I. "A detachment of Chaplains and Domestics" is good.

Good Mr Dean

Chapel Row

June 3. 1716

I hope this will find you and your Lady in good health, of the value of which I am every day made more and more sensible, by y<sup>e</sup>. melancholy complaints of my dear Sister Ball. She has hitherto born her pains w<sup>th</sup> an unexampled Courage: But the distemper visibly prevails upon her, And I think she cannot hold out many months longer!

I beg the favour of you to present my bounden duty to my good Lord Bp. and dispose him as you see opportunity to expect a Messenger\* of bad news about the latter end of this month. The Good Bp. of Carlisle offer'd me the honour of preaching the inauguration Sermon at Court: But I told him I was engaged to perform y<sup>t</sup> Service in my Course at Peterburgh: He proposes to make you a visit at Peterburgh before that time, and it is probable that the King may solemnize y<sup>t</sup> day at Hannover, tho' y<sup>e</sup> time of his setting out (w<sup>ch</sup> was fixt for Wednesday) is undetermin'd, by reason of y<sup>e</sup> new motions at Court. The Duke of Argyll who was on Sunday last removed from all places under the King, did this day resign his key to the Prince, and a long string of Scotch Lords & Gentlemen are to be excused their attendance at Court.

The reason of this is said to be, because y<sup>t</sup> some of these Lords were suspected of having given advice to y<sup>e</sup> Prince y<sup>t</sup> was not approv'd of, by the King. The Prince appear'd well pleas'd over night w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> powers committed to him for governing during y<sup>e</sup> King's absence; But after discourse w<sup>th</sup> some of these great men, he is said to have desired larger powers. More of this matter, is not proper for a letter.

It is also said y<sup>t</sup> some new conspiracies have been discover'd, & a list of y<sup>e</sup> Conspirators sent over by the Lord Stairs. Amongst these some of our own house, & our own familiar friends.

Many of y<sup>e</sup> German Officers go over w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> King, & take their familys with them, in order to return no more. ffew of the English Noblemen go at present, none of y<sup>e</sup> Chaplains. Dr Torriano talks of going a Volunteer, sine prece, sine precio. But if the King stay's longer y<sup>n</sup> he at present proposes, a Detachm<sup>t</sup> of Chaplains & Domestics will be sent to him.

The Arch Bp Created six or seven D<sup>rs</sup> at his Enthronization at Canterbury, of w<sup>ch</sup> Number Dr D. Trimnel, Dr Whitfeild, & Dr Bowers are three. The Bp of Exeter is said to be ill at his See. And Dr Canon not well w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Arch Bp. He has writ a controversial letter to his Grace upon y<sup>e</sup> subject of his speech ag<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Vestry-bill, and y<sup>e</sup> ancient method of distributing monies given at Sacram<sup>ts</sup>. But this dispute has gone no further y<sup>n</sup> y<sup>e</sup> exchange of written letters between those two.

I was about to have added some more Items of news, but y<sup>e</sup> letter carriers bell obliges me to break off.

I am w<sup>th</sup> all due respect Good Mr Dean  
y<sup>r</sup> most ffaithfull friend & Serv<sup>t</sup>

R. Reynolds.

I preach<sup>t</sup> last Sunday before the King.

\* By y<sup>e</sup> messenger of bad news, I mean no more y<sup>n</sup> y<sup>t</sup> his Lordship may y<sup>n</sup> expect a particular acc<sup>t</sup> from me of my Sister Balls ill state of health.

ED.

**946.—Chartulary of Henry de Pychele.**—A letter belonging to the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding has been placed at our disposal for publication by Dr. Perry, the President of the Society. It contains mention, among other matters, of the recovery of an old Chartulary of Peterborough Abbey, which had long been lost or mislaid. The endorsement, in the handwriting of Mr. Maurice Johnson, is this :—

“L<sup>r</sup> from Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Tim Neve M.A. Socc. Sp. & Peterb. S. Minutes of the Soc. there. Chartularium Vetus Ecclia<sup>e</sup> S<sup>ti</sup> Petri de Burgo recovered.”

For a notice of the writer of this letter see Art. 598.

Sir

Peterborough  
16 June 1742

I recd y<sup>r</sup>. last favour w<sup>ch</sup> I communicated to y<sup>e</sup> Society for w<sup>ch</sup> you have our Thanks, & in return am ordered to send you a short abstract of our Minutes from Feb. 10. 1741-2 to May 12.

10 Feb. Communicated by Mr. Cox a member some remarks on Mr. Lewinhooks Microscopes w<sup>ch</sup>. were made before y<sup>e</sup>. R.S. [Royal Society] by M<sup>r</sup>. Baker.

17. A letter from y<sup>e</sup>. Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Saul Rector of Harleston a worthy corresponding Member with a present of a curious Collection of Fossils &c dug out of y<sup>e</sup>. gravel pits 1741 near y<sup>e</sup>. Banks of y<sup>e</sup>. river Witham.

24. Presented from Mr. Green a member in London several old printed books of value, particularly y<sup>e</sup>. Legend of S<sup>t</sup>. Anne y<sup>e</sup>. mother of y<sup>e</sup>. Virgin Mary & grandmother of our Lord, printed in a MS. Letter.

3 Mar. Rymers Fœdera 20 Vol. Fol. neatly bound Letterd & gilt, a present from y<sup>e</sup>. right Hon<sup>ble</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. Earl Fitzwilliam a member, (now a Lord in Parliament) brought into our Musæum.

10 Mar. Five guineas ordered to be paid as a present from our Society to y<sup>e</sup>. Society for propagating y<sup>e</sup>. Gospel in foreign parts.

17. Some account of Liveden House and y<sup>e</sup>. Inscriptions & ornaments communicated by y<sup>e</sup>. Secretary, sent to you before.

24. Inscription of a large gold Medalion w<sup>h</sup>. £30.

REGNO GLORIAM  
SENATVI DIGNITATEM  
NOBILITATI SPLENDOREM  
POPVLO LEGES  
OMNIBVS TRANQVILLITATEN (*sic*)  
RESTITVIT  
AVGVSTVS SECVNDVS  
POLONIARVM REX  
AVGVSTISSIMVS  
GROSKVRT F

Round the edge this Chronogram

NVBILA SARMATIÆ SIC SYDERA LÆTA SERENANT (1)

7 Apr. Account communicated of Cardinal Wolsey's keeping his solemn feast of Easter 1539 at Peterborough, from thence he went into y<sup>e</sup>. North, being first entertaind by Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. Fitzwilliam who had once been his Servant, at Milton.

14. Transcripts of some remarkable Wills out of y<sup>e</sup>. Register book here ab an<sup>o</sup>. 1467 to 1506.

21. Mr. Tonstal P. Orator of y<sup>e</sup>. University of Cambridge & a member presented y<sup>e</sup>. Soc. with his learned Letter to Dr. Middleton &c.

28. From Mr. Morton Gilks a worthy corresponding Member at Chesterfield in Derbyshire a remarkable Case in Surgery, of a man 67 years of age, who by a pen knife had made a wound in his belly 5 inches wide, so y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. Omentum & intestines came out &c curd by fomentations.

12 May. Account of y<sup>e</sup>. manner & order of translating y<sup>e</sup>. English Bible by y<sup>e</sup>. Authority of K. James I. Communicated by y<sup>e</sup> Secretary &c &c &c

We have now finished our Porto folio for our Prints & plac'd them in their order. We have in y<sup>t</sup>. Collection 10 Capital pictures of Vandyke. P. P. Rubens's History of our Saviours Passion. The Luxemburg Gallery. Hollars Habits both of y<sup>e</sup>. English & foreign women. Callots beggars & whims. His History of y<sup>e</sup>. Virgin Mary. Of Christ. Alb. Dari's History of Xts. Passion. All y<sup>e</sup>. Prints of y<sup>e</sup>. Antiquarian Society. Great numbers of heads Landscapes ruins &c w<sup>ch</sup>. together make up a large Vol. & cost us about 5 guineas.

I've recover'd out of y<sup>e</sup>. hands of a gentleman in London a Q<sup>o</sup>. MS. Chartulary formerly belonging to this Church.

Liber Chartarum & privilegiorum Henrici de Pygheele mentioned by Gunton P. 29, 43, 49, ff. & says it was in the hands of H. Cromwell.

This book in y<sup>e</sup>. year 1694 was recovered by Bishop White, & by him given to y<sup>e</sup>. Bishops of Peterborough his Successors, as appears by an inscription in y<sup>e</sup>. Bishops own hand, at y<sup>e</sup>. end of y<sup>e</sup>. book. How it came to be lost again I know not. I shall now restore it, & will see it plac'd in Registers office from whom I will take a Note of its entry, & deposit y<sup>t</sup>. in y<sup>e</sup>. Dean & Chapters Register, y<sup>t</sup>. it may be safe for y<sup>e</sup>. future.

Our Dean (2) was married last Monday at Bury & I expect him here next week with his Lady. I've been busie in getting back to my own house, else sh<sup>d</sup>. have answerd y<sup>rs</sup>. before. As for Celtic Monuments I've so little skill of, or faith in those ancient pieces of Architecture, y<sup>t</sup>. I am not in y<sup>e</sup>. least able to speak to y<sup>e</sup>. point in w<sup>ch</sup>. you desire my Sentiments, & know nothing whether our Chapter houses resemble theirs. I sh<sup>d</sup>. be glad to see y<sup>r</sup>. Dissertation about writing & y<sup>e</sup>. gradation of Letters w<sup>ch</sup>. must be curious, especially as you have so much good Authority to go upon, rather y<sup>n</sup>. conjecture. I suppose you've seen Mr. Squires Dissertation upon y<sup>e</sup>. Antiquity of y<sup>e</sup>. Greek language, & Dr. Taylers Commentarius in L. Decemviralem, wherein there are several curious things in antiquity explain'd.

I hope I shall be able this Summer to Congratulate you upon y<sup>e</sup>. Victories of both y<sup>r</sup>. Sons abroad by Land & Sea. Martin I warrant him will not lye idle in y<sup>e</sup>. West Indies w<sup>t</sup>ever Maurice (3) may do in Flanders. I wish them both their Healths & y<sup>t</sup>. you may live to see them fortunate & great, with every other branch of y<sup>r</sup>. family to whom I beg my very humble Service, & to all y<sup>e</sup>. gentlemen of y<sup>e</sup>. Society. Its time I had done, lest I tyre you more y<sup>n</sup>. my self who am

Dear Sir,  
y<sup>r</sup>. most obedient  
& affectionate Servant,  
Tim: Neve.

To Maurice Johnson Jun<sup>r</sup>. Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
at Spalding.

Notes. (1) "Augustus II., most august King of Poland, restored glory to his realm, dignity to the senate, splendour

to the nobles, laws to the people, tranquility to all." (Groskurt is the name of the designer.) The chronogram, "So glad constellations brighten the clouds of Poland," gives the date 1708. If "sydera" had been spelt "sidera" the date would be 1709, and this would seem to be true date of the medallion; because Augustus II. had abdicated the crown of Poland in 1706, and it was not till after the battle of Pultowa, in 1709, that he was recalled to the throne. He was also Elector of Saxony: born 1670, died 1733.

(2) John Thomas, born 1681, died 1766. He was President of the Peterborough Gentlemen's Society when Dean. He was afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, and ultimately of Salisbury. The lady whom he married as mentioned in the above letter, was Miss Sherlock, niece of Bishop Sherlock of Salisbury. She seems to have been his fourth wife.

(3) On a stone in the outer south aisle of Spalding church is this inscription:—*Lieu*<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Maurice Johnson Born 11<sup>th</sup> of March 1711. Died 4<sup>th</sup> of December 1793.

**947.—Isleham Deed, 1337.**—Among the additional charters in the British Museum Library is one, No. 28528, which has been transcribed for our readers, as it illustrates the early history of one of the Fen parishes, Isleham. The date is 26 Nov., 1337. The contractions in the original are expanded.

*Pateat univ[er]sis presens scriptum visuris vel audituris quod ita convenit inter dominum Robertum Bayard ex parte una et dominum Johannem de Lunetot ex altera vidz quod cum idem dominus Robertus dederit concesserit et carta sua confirmaverit prefato Domino Johanni de Lunetot centum solidos annui et quieti redditus percipiendum annuatim de Willelmo de Pakeham rectore ecclesie de Tymeworth et de Johanne de Malemanefford quem quidem redditum ijdem Willelmus et Johannes prefato domino Roberto reddere consueverunt et debuerunt pro manerio de Iselham cum pertinentiis quod quidem manerium ijdem Willelmus et Johannes tenuerunt de eodem Roberto ad durationem vite ipsorum Willelmi et Johannis una cum eodem manerio de Iselham cum suis pertinentiis cum illud accidere contigerit per mortem predictorum Willelmi et Johannis. Habendum et tenendum dicto domino Johanni et heredibus suis vel suis assignatis imperpetuum. Secundum tenorem cujusdam carte feoffamenti prefato domino Johanni per predictum dominum Robertum inde confecte idem dominus Robertus concessit et fideliter promisit quod*

infra festum Purificaonis beate Marie proximo futurum venire faciet dominam feliciam uxorem suam coram Justiciariis domini Regis apud Westmonasterium ad recognicionem faciendam de predictis centum solidis redditus et manerio predicto cum suis pertinentiis domino Johanni de Lunetot in feodo remanendo imperpetuum. Quod si non fecerit, idem dominus Robertus concedit et per presens scriptum recognossit pro se et heredibus suis quod ipse et heredes sui tenentur prefato domino Johanni de Lunetot vel heredibus suis in centum marcis sterlingorum bonorum et legalium in festo Pasche proximo sequenti eidem solvendorum pro sumptibus suis et expensis ratione predicti manerij factis. Et si dictus Robertus prefatam dominam feliciam uxorem suam infra dictum festum Purificaonis beate Marie proximo futurum coram prefatis Justiciariis apud Westmonasterium venire fecerit ad faciendam recognicionem predictam de predictis centum solidis redditus et predicto manerio de Iselham dicto domino Johanni de Lunetot in feodo remanendo imperpetuum Ita quod finis inde inter eos secure levare possit extunc idem dominus Johannes cognossit se teneri eidem domino Roberto in quadraginta marcis sterlingorum unde solvet eidem domino Roberto decem marcas in prefato festo Purificaonis beate Marie Et in quindena Sancti Johannis Baptiste proximo sequenti triginta marcas sine ulteriori dilacione ad quam solutionem eidem domino Roberto vel suis assignatis faciendam diebus et anno supradictis Idem dominus Robertus obligat se et heredes suas et omnia bona sua mobilia et immobilia ubicumque fuerint inventa. Et ad maiorem securitatem dictus dominus Johannes de Lunetot eidem domino Roberto Bayard de predictis quadraginta marcis fidejussores invenit subscriptos. Videlicet Henricum de Guldeford rectorem ecclesie de Alba Roynges Willelmum Lomalle et Brem [?] de Bassingeburh quorum unusquisque insolidum se obligavit et principalem debitorem se constituit. In cuius rei testimonium presenti scripto ad modum Cyrographi confecto sigilla sua alternatim sunt apposita. Hiis testibus dominis Thoma de Weylaund Hamone Hauteyn Rogero Luneday Humfrido de Bassingeburh Alano fraunceys militibus Willelmo Talemasch Edmundo de Sherdelawe Ricardo de Maxham Willelmo de Twamhill Henrico Matefray Johanne de Hauerhull et multis aliis. Datum apud Westmonasterium die Martis proximo post festum sancte Katerine Virginis Anno Regni Regis Edwardi tertii decimo.

The substance of this deed, of which it is unnecessary to give a full translation, is to this effect. Robert Bayard grants to John de Lunetot an annual rent of fifty shillings due from William de Pakeham and John de Malemanefford out of the manor of Isleham, which they held of Robert Bayard for their lives, and he also undertakes to continue the payment if the manor should revert to him by their deaths. Furthermore he faithfully promises that before the feast of the Purification next following he will see that his wife Felicia appears before the Justices at Westminster, and formally recognises the transaction, (so that de Lunetot's claim may still hold good even if Bayard were to die). Failing to do this he (Robert Bayard) and his heirs will be bound in the sum of 100 marks

sterling by next Easter. But if Felicia appears and makes recognition then John de Lunetot will pay forty marks sterling, ten to Robert Bayard at the feast of the Purification, and the remaining thirty within fifteen days of Midsummer. John de Lunetot offers as security, Henry de Guldeford, Rector of Alba Royngges, William Lomalle, and B. (perhaps Bartholomew) de Basingbourne. The witnesses are Sir Thomas de Weylaund, Sir Hamon Hauteyn, Sir Roger Luneday, Sir Humfrey de Bassingbourne, William Talemasch, Edmund de Sherdelawe, Richard de Maxham, William de Twamhill, Henry Matefray, John de Haverhull, and many others. Dated at Westminster Tuesday after S. Katherine's day, 10 Edw. III. Ed.

948.—**Monastic Seals.**—In a work just published by the De la More Press on Monastic Seals of the thirteenth century (by Gale Pendrick, F.R.H.S.), are some accounts of seals belonging to five monastic institutions of the Fens, Croyland, Ely, Kyme, Peterborough, and Ramsey. Very admirable engravings are given of some seal or seals in each case, but the design of the work being to afford a view of seal design and execution, all the available examples have not been included, but only such as best illustrated the compiler's object.

We give a brief abstract of the Fenland seals, together with the inscriptions, some of which are very noteworthy.

Croyland. The seal engraved, described as the "second seal," has a carved canopy representing a church, and beneath it the Apostle S. Bartholomew, handing his whip to S. Guthlac. "Between the figures is seen a bush with a bird, one of the emblems of the latter, upon it. Both the whip and knife of S. Bartholomew figured in the Abbey arms." The inscription is:—

SIGILL' COMMVNE ABBATIS ET  
CONVENTVS CROYLANDIE.

Three whips and three knives appear on the tokens of the place. See our illustration at Art. 821.



Ely. An almost perfect impression is given of the seal of the chapter, a very fine one. "Obversely, the design comprises a façade of three arches (each cusped upon the inside, the central with greater elaboration) supported by four pillars (the two inner fluted, all with capitals), surmounted by a structure resembling a Cathedral and ornamented at the sides with tabernacle work, raised upon an arcade of narrow trefoiled arches." The figures are, S. Etheldreda, crowned, with pastoral staff and open book; Tonberht, her first husband, with a falcon on his wrist; King Egfrid, her second husband, with crown and sceptre. Above are two angels with censers.

SIGILLVM : CAPITVLI : ECCL'IE : SCE :  
ETHELDREDE DE ELY.

The design on the reverse is very similar, but not identical. The figures here are, S. Peter, with nimbus, keys, and book; Bishop Ethelwold, mitred; the Virgin Mary, with crown, sceptre, and book. At the foot "is a boat with several persons in it riding on waves." The significance of this boat is doubtful.

: S' SCI : PETRI : ET SCE : ETHELDRIDE :  
VIRGINIS : ET REGINE.

Round the edge of the seal is this rhyming distich:—

PETRVS : ETELDREDA : MOLLIS : SVB : TEGMINE : CERE :  
ELY : SECRETA : CELARE : SIMVL : STATVERE :

This is a splendid example. "Conceived in all the intensity of Gothic consciousness, it was magnificently designed and most exquisitely wrought . . . Outside the realm of seals, excepting architecture, it would be difficult if not impossible to adduce a work of human contrivance of its century in which its beauty was exceeded."

Kyme. The seal has a representation of the Annunciation. Between the figures of the Blessed Virgin and the angel Gabriel, is the usual flower-pot with the conventional lily, a fleur-de-lis on a long stalk.

+ SIGILLVM PRIORIS ET CONVENTVS DE KIMA.

The impression from which the engraving was taken was not very good: but the "figures apparently were well drawn, nicely disposed, and gracefully vested."

Peterborough. This is the "second corporate seal of the Abbey." On the obverse is a boat, each end of which has an animal as figure-head, with the three patron saints under canopied niches, S. Paul in the centre with sword and book; S. Peter with keys and book; S. Andrew with his cross and book. "Over the canopies, and on the left of the field the initial 'R.' is thrice introduced, and on the right the letter 'F.' also." No solution of this latter letter is attempted, but it is suggested that the "R." may stand for Robert de Sutton, Abbot 1262-74. On the engraving however there are five letters, which look like "R. R. F. P. F." The inscription on the obverse has a quaint reference to the symbols of the three saints, the cross, key, and sword:—

✚, : SIGNVM : BVRGENSE : CRVCE : CLAVE :  
FVLGET : ET : ENSE.

On the reverse are again three niches, the cross-keys of the abbey arms appearing twice above the central niche. This niche has beneath it S. Peter, seated, with a tiara, "holding the keys in his right hand as customarily, and in his left, what is unusual for him a Latin cross, with his feet resting upon an animal symbolic of the Evil One, near which is the head of a king, doubtless intended for one of the royal founders." On the sinister side is an abbot with staff and book; and the third niche is occupied with an altar, on which is a chalice, covered, and what looks like a sanctuary lamp above. The inscription speaks of S. Peter leaving his boat and taking up the work of the Gospel, and has reference probably to the boat on the obverse.

: TV : PRO : ME : NAVEM : LIQVISTI : SVSCIPE :  
CLAVEM :

"As a whole the seal is a superb work of its kind and period."

Ramsey. The seal engraved is that of Abbot Richard, 1214-16. "The scheme conveys S. Benedict seated on a throne, holding in his left hand a pastoral staff, and delivering another to a figure, probably intended for Ædnoth, who, bending, is about to receive it."

. . . . RICARDI : DEI : GRACIA : ABBA[T]IS :  
 . SANCTI : BENEDICTI : DE : RAMMES . . .

Of the above seals those of Croyland and Ramsey are of the vesica shape; the others are circular. Ed.

949.—**Peterborough Constitutionalists, 1792.** — The following is from *The Stamford Mercury* for 28 Dec., 1792:—

AT a MEETING of the Inhabitants of the City of PETERBOROUGH, and its Vicinity, at the Town-Hall in the said City, the 19th Day of December, 1792;

*Resolved unanimously*, That, having observed with great Concern and some Alarm, many wicked and seditious Publications, circulated lately with extraordinary Assiduity among the poorer Orders of our Fellow Subjects, tending to loosen the great and necessary Bonds of all Society, by reprobating Subordination and Obedience to established Law, to annihilate the Veneration for, and to alienate the Affection of the Subject from this HAPPY CONSTITUTION, by the artful Display of specious, but impracticable Theories, and finally, by the bold and impudent Assertion of the *Fact*, to mislead the ignorant and unwary into the dangerous Belief, that *the general Veneration for the long tried and ancient Order of Things, and the wonted Attachment of the Subject to this HAPPY CONSTITUTION no longer exists, but that in its Stead, an eager Desire for Experiment and Innovation has sprung up, and now engages the Wishes of all Ranks and Descriptions of Men;*

We therefore conceive ourselves fully justified by these Circumstances, to come forward at this juncture, and in this public Manner to join in declaring,

OUR FIRM AND UNSHAKEN ATTACHMENT TO THE  
 PRESENT CONSTITUTION.;

An Attachment founded upon a full Conviction of its peculiar fitness, to impart the great Blessings of Society to all the different Classes of its Subjects, by insuring in an eminent Degree TO ALL

SECURITY OF PROPERTY,  
*the fruits of honest industry,*  
And PERSONAL FREEDOM.

An Attachment not founded upon doubtful Speculation, but justified by the best and surest of all Tests, the Experience of past Times as to its Effects, and further fortified by the acknowledged increasing Prosperity and Happiness of the present.

We also engage mutually, whenever Opportunity may offer, to bring the Authors and Publishers of such seditious and mischievous Doctrines under Cognizance of the Law, and to endeavour, by every Means of Persuasion and Instruction in our Power, to remove any evil Impressions from the Minds of our Neighbours, should it appear that these doctrines have made any ; but we are happy to declare thus publicly, that according to the best of our Observation, they have made little or no Impression at all within the Circle of this Neighbourhood.

Signed by ROBERT BLAKE, Esq. Chairman.

And 212 other Persons.

*Ordered,* That the Thanks of this Meeting be given to the Chairman, for his Attention to the Business of the Day.

950.—**Deeping S. James Contract, 1698.**—“April y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 98: Whereas my unkle had Twelpe pence a day for euerey day he came to the Church about the takeing of Towne-accounts, or about makeing of any Sessments for the poore Church Constable or digrave Tax and Poll: and Since it hath beene allowed and paid to me, I therefore doe desire that you Will be pleased that I may be taken out of all Sessments to the poore Church-Constable and digrave, and for which I

will make an Allowance out of the aforesaid dayes: Which one year Since I di . . . . te for y<sup>e</sup>. Towne they did comto Twenty Shillings: That is to say: Plough Monday: Candlemas day: Easter Monday: May day: All Saints-day: 4 dayes for y<sup>e</sup>. 4 Sessments for y<sup>e</sup>. Church Sessment a day: a day for y<sup>e</sup> Constables Sessment: a day for y<sup>e</sup>. digraves Sessment: a day for the Tax: and a day for y<sup>e</sup>. Poll: and 6 dayes for takeing of Towne-accounts: Soe that in Stead of paying of my Sessments to y<sup>e</sup>. poore Church Constable and digrave: I will abate and discount all the aforesaid dayes: but Plough Monday: Easter-Monday: May day: and All Saints day: And In Wittnes whereof I have Sett to my hand the day and year above Written.

Edw: Darley:

[Endorsed:]

“A contract between Edw: Darley and y<sup>e</sup>. Townsmen.”

The above paper, from the parish church, has been lent by the Rev. S. W. Skene, Vicar of Deeping S. James.

“Digrave, Dikegrave [q.d. *Dike* or *Ditch-Grave*] an Officer who takes Care of Banks and Ditches.” Bailey. More commonly called Dike-reeve.

951.—“**The Heron among the Jackdaws.**”—Transcript of a song by the Rev. John Wing, of Thornhaugh, written on the first occasion of Sir Robert Heron offering himself as a candidate for Peterborough, as nominee of Earl Fitzwilliam: the former Member, Mr. Lamb, having resigned to contest Hertfordshire.

AIR—“There was a little man, and he had a little gun.”

Said a Peer to a Hern, “you plainly may discern  
That my *Lamb* into Hertfordshire has fled, fled, fled;  
Dare you soar to yonder Church, where the Jackdaws love to perch,  
And proclaim that you have risen in his stead, stead, stead?”

“My Lord,” replied the Hern, “I shall never hang astern,  
And what the Jackdaws think of it I value not a straw;  
You only cry ‘away,’ and I’m off without delay,  
Though all the Daws in England shout their caw, caw, caw.”

So on one sunny day the Heron flew that way,  
 And the people behaved so very bad, bad, bad ;  
 Shouting, "Heron for ever, and the Jackdaws in the river!"  
 Which made my friends the Daws feel very mad, mad, mad.  
 "Come along, come along," said a Daw stout and *Strong*,<sup>1</sup>  
 "And we'll write unto my Lord a sharpish letter, letter, letter ;  
 And tell him we have heard the Hern's a wicked bird  
 And goosey gander Chaplain is a better, better, better."  
 Then a Daw that loved *prattle*,<sup>2</sup> at once took up the tattle,  
 And made a few remarks upon the case, case, case ;  
 "You know I've inward light, like a black cat's tail at night,  
 Besides a jolly stock of saving grace, grace, grace.  
 Now I find 'twixt grace and light the Church is in bad plight,  
 For as sure as *Jacobs*'<sup>3</sup> ladder's made of wood, wood, wood ;  
 The Hern last January ate a roasted Prebendary,  
 And vowed that the dish was very good, good, good."  
 Then a Daw with a long beak thought it his turn to speak,  
 And looking very white about the gills, gills, gills ;  
 Quoth he, "I'll tell you what, the Church will go to pot,  
 Or never more call me Tommy Mills, Mills, Mills."<sup>4</sup>  
 Of animals predacious, the Hern is most voracious,  
 If he ate a Prebendary, he'll soon gobble up the Dean :  
 Ashley *Sharpe*<sup>5</sup> and the singers, little *Larkin*<sup>6</sup> and the ringers,  
 Will quickly in his frying-pan be seen, seen, seen.  
 Mrs. Marsh and the *Bishop*,<sup>7</sup> like a fricassee he'll dish up,  
 The Apparitors for gravy he'll stew down, down, down,  
 The Archdeacon<sup>1</sup> it is said, will be dressed like a Calf's head :  
 And all the Minor Canons be done brown, brown, brown."  
 When the Daws had done their talk, their fancy not to baulk,  
 They dispatched to my Lord a long epistle, pistle, pistle ;  
 But I'm vastly grieved to say, it was labour thrown away,  
 For his Lordship, only left them all to whistle, whistle, whistle.

1 Rev. W. Strong, Canon and Archdeacon.

2 Rev. Canon Pratt.

3 Mr. C. Jacobs, Printer and Bookseller.

4 Rev. T. Mills, Minor Canon.

5 Ashley Sharpe, Lay Clerk.

6 Mr. Larkin, Cathedral Organist.

7 Herbert Marsh, Lord Bishop.

Mr. Wing was instituted to the rectory of Thornhaugh, 24th January, 1830, and from a paragraph appearing in the *Stamford Mercury* for August 6th, 1830, it would appear that the election to which the above verses apply took place on the 2nd of that month. The rival candidates were Viscount Milton and Sir Robert Heron, nominees of Earl Fitzwilliam, and J. H. Fazakerley, Esq. ; the election resulting in the defeat of Lord Milton and the return of the other two gentlemen. They were both re-elected on 10th December, 1832. With reference to the first election, the *Stamford Mercury* says :—

On Monday last the election at Peterborough took place. Between 9 and 10 o'clock a long concourse of the inhabitants went towards Milton Abbey with ropes and tackle to meet the candidates, Lord Milton and Sir Robert Heron, intending to take the horses from their carriage and draw them into the city; when they had gone some distance, however, those by whom this preparation had been made were disappointed by the candidates appearing on horseback. They were ushered into Peterboro' with the ringing of bells and a tolerable band. A very superb dinner was provided at the Angel inn, and about 60 of the electors dined there: preparations had been made for 110. In the evening nine barrels of ale were given away in different parts of the town.

**952.—Boston Fair.**—The date of the first institution of this very important Fair does not seem to be known; at least I have not been able to find it in any of the accounts of the early commerce of the town that I have been able to consult. The first mention of Boston as a considerable centre of trade with foreign countries occurs at the beginning of the thirteenth century; and in 1203, in a list of receipts paid into the Exchequer in respect of a tax upon the goods of merchants, Boston comes second in the list according to the amounts paid, being only exceeded by London; and indeed its payments were not very considerably below those of the metropolis, London paying just over £836, and Boston over £780.\* In the year 1261 mention is made (in the records of the Cloth Gild at Leicester) of the Market at Boston, as if it were an established thing: so we may probably conclude that the Fair had its origin in the latter years of the twelfth century.

Evidence of the importance of S. Botolph's Fair is given in the Letter-Books of the City of London. Each year, for four years, the Corporation of London, under the direction of the Library Committee, has published a Calendar of Letter-Books. Those already issued take us from 1275 to 1314. It was very usual, among merchants, to fix payments for their purchases to be made at one or the other of the provincial fairs, as both seller and purchaser would be likely to be present at them. The first notice of S. Botolph's Fair in this connection occurs

\* Paper on Early Commerce of Boston, by P. Thompson, in *Reports and Papers of Associated Architectural Societies*, ii. 362.

in 1276. The chief other Fairs named, at which such payments were to be made, were those of Stamford, S. Ives, Winchester, and Northampton.

“The citizens resorted in such numbers to the fair annually held there on St. Botolph’s Day [17 June] that all business in the Court of Husting ceased, and the Court was closed for a month.”—*Calendar of Letter-Book A*, p. 3, note.

The actual Fair seems to have lasted even longer than a month, because occasionally, as in 1282, a payment was fixed for “St. Botolph’s Fair on the Feast of St. James, Ap.”. This festival is on 25 July, 38 days after S. Botolph’s Day.

At p. 122 of the Calendar, A, is this entry:—

Letter from John, Duke of Brittany and Earl of Richmond, to R[alph] de Sandwich, Warden of the City, and Commons of the same, acknowledging the receipt of letters complaining of the conduct of the Duke’s stewards and bailiffs towards the citizens of London at his Fair of St. Botolph’s. He is sending his steward Richemund to notify his wishes to the citizens, promising to see justice done. Dated the Feast of Innocents [28 Dec.].

In the next volume, Calendar, B, is given the form of letters patent for the commissioners sent down by the City of London to protect the rights of the citizens at the Fair.

To all stewards, bailiffs, and officers of the Fair of St. Botolph and other faithful of Christ to whom the present letters shall come, Henry le Galeys, Mayor of the City of London, as well as the whole commune send greeting. Know ye that we have made and constituted our beloved in Christ Elyas Russel, John de Armenters, William de Paris, and William de Mareys, our Wardens and Attorneys at the present Fair of St. Botolph, to demand and claim and exact all our citizens who are for any cause arrested or impleaded in any of your courts, and for executing full justice in all plaints against them according to the law merchant, ratifying and holding good anything they or any one of them may do in the premises and in all other things which they or any one of them shall deem to affect in any way the liberties of the City and our citizens. In witness whereof we have set our common seal to these presents. Dated at London, Sunday the Feast of St. Margaret, V. [20 July], 26 Edward I. [A.D. 1298].

In Calendar, C, p. 36, occurs the following:—

Record of proceedings against Thomas Sely and Richer de Refham, Sheriffs of London, before the King’s Council, anno 27 Edward I., for having attached Alan de Cupildiche, of co. Lincoln, who had been appealed by William de Odyham for having caused the death of Walter de Odyham, his uncle, at St. Botolph’s Fair.

These proceedings are printed in *Liber Albus*, B.III., P. III., p. 349.







## Of attachment for Felony committed in a Foreign County.

Thomas Sely [and] Richer de Refham, Sheriffs of London, in the seven-and-twentieth year of the reign of King Edward, were attached on the Friday next after the Feast of Saint Gregory the Pope [12 March], in the year above-mentioned, to appear before the Council of his lordship the King at Westminster, to certify the Council aforesaid wherefore Alan de Cupildiche, of the County of Lincoln, had been attached in the City of London by the said Sheriffs.

Who said, that one William de Odyham had appealed the aforesaid Alan before the Coroner of London of the death of Walter de Odyham, his uncle, on the day of Saint James [25 July] at the Fair of Saint Botolph by him slain, and had found sureties to prosecute him for felony; and that accordingly they had attached and imprisoned Alan aforesaid, as was fully lawful for them to do, in such manner as in like cases their predecessors had done. By which Council of his lordship the King it was enjoined upon them, that they should bring the body of the aforesaid Alan before them on the Thursday next before the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary [25 March], in the year above-mentioned; and that there they should personally appear, together with the Mayor and Aldermen, to shew unto them if in any similar case before that time they had taken any person and imprisoned him,

Upon which day, the aforesaid Alan and the Sheriffs appeared; and the Sheriffs aforesaid avowed that the said attachment was a lawful one, for that when one John de Zole was slain at Caxtone in the County of Huntingdon, the wife of the said John afterwards came to the City of London and found one Coke, William by name, and appealed him of the death of the said John; who was thereupon taken and imprisoned, and put himself [upon the country] for good and for evil before Ralph de Sandwich. In like manner, one William de Assygdone, for the death of Hugh de Molyas in the County of Essex.

[Other precedents.]

Wherefore, by the Council of his lordship the King it was adjudged, that such attachment was a lawful one: and that therefore if the aforesaid Alan knew ought to shew unto them that the aforesaid Sheriffs had done unto him, he was to shew the same. And the aforesaid Alan knew nought for him to shew; wherefore, the Sheriffs aforesaid departed thence without day named, and Alan aforesaid on the Wednesday next ensuing put himself [upon the country] for good and for evil, in presence of Ralph de Sandwich and Stephen de Graveshende, Justiciars to [the delivery of] Newgate assigned.

At Kenilworth, 2 June, 1301, a writ was issued to the bailiffs of Boston Fair "confirmatory of the chartered privileges of the citizens of London." It is endorsed "Breve R' [i.e., Regis] Ballivis Nundinarum Sancti Botulphi pro civibus London."

The commissioners sent by the City in 1301, Elyas Russel, Mayor, were Hugh Pourte, John de Armenters, John de Lincoln, and John de Burreford; and in addition to the duties named in the previous commission, they were authorized "to execute plenary justice to all complaining of them [the citizens of London] according to the law merchant."

In 1302 the commissioners were the same, except that Elyas Russel took the place of John de Lincoln.

In 1303, commissioners, John de Burreford, William Cosin, Richard de Meldeburne, and Stephen de Abyndone.

In 1304, William de Bettayne, Hugh Pourte, William de Combemurtin, William Cosin, Richard de Mildebourne, and Robert Persone.

In the following years these new names occur as commissioners, in place of one of the previous persons. Reginald Thunderlee, 1305; John le Mire, William de Bydik, 1306; William de Hedersete, 1307; Richard Wylehale, William de Haningtone, Simon de Corp, 1308; John de Boreford, Stephen Pencrich, 1309; Simon de Abyndone, William de Wyndesore, 1310. In each year also a King's writ was issued to the bailiffs of the Earl of Richmond, confirmatory of the citizens' privileges.

The Fair seems to have been altogether discontinued about the end of the fourteenth century. At a Court of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commoners, holden 24 Sep. 1416, it was stated that it had been the custom in London "for one month after the Feast of St. Botolph the Abbot [17 June] to hold no Husting therein," because men who had suits at the Husting went to trade at Boston Fair, "for many years past, the holding at such Fair, which was the cause of so putting off the Husting, as before stated, had entirely ceased; though still in each year no Husting was held for one month after the Feast of St. Botolph aforesaid, to the manifest retarding of law and justice."

It was accordingly ordered that the Court of Husting should be no longer closed for the month after S. Botolph's Day, "any usage or ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding."

This we learn from Riley's *Memorials*, 637, on the authority of Letter Book I., the Calendar of which has not yet been published.

Once we find the Fair spoken of as the Fair of Hoylande.

Ed.

953.—**Drainage of the Great Level (No. 7).**—*Outfalls: Sir Clement's Report. Westwater. The Duplicate Commission. The Cam and Vice Chancellor. The Undertakers.*—Outfalls engrossed the attention of the Commissioners and juries in 1618. The great hindrance to the execution of necessary works lay in the inability to tax the upland countries, whose summer floods kept the high lands of Thorney and Crowland surrounded, and made Borough Fen “a mare.”

Sir Clement Edmondson bade the Commissioners to enforce their decrees by beginning the works for opening to the sea the choked channels of the Ouse, the Welland, and the Nene, and by ceasing to fall out one with another, otherwise the swelling floods would swallow them up too. To ring the bells backwards, as others do to warn a town of fire, when the proud Welland overbears her continents, would never clear the channels at Foss-dike. To that end Sir Clement made earnest instance. The Commissioners knew well enough what was wanted. In 1617, a jury found and presented, “upon travell and vewe that the great river of Welland from the mouth of his outfall into the sea and so upwards to Cowhirne and so to Spaldinge and so to Cubbit and so to Croyland is so silted and landed upp with wreck, decayed and grown so narrow and imperfect\* that it is not sufficient to convey to the sea the water nor the one part of the waters of the said river and the fennes adjoining but surroundeth the lands and fennes and commons to the utter undoing of many towns if remedy be not spedily provided.” And upon their travel and view of the river of Nene they found and presented “that from the sea to the four gotes and so upwards to a place called Horshoe is growne imperfect in a crooked channel and so silted up at the four gotes that they have no outfall and so silted up like-

\* Acts of P.C., 3 June, 1576. The scouring of the river of Wisbech. Edward Wilkes, the solicitor of the cause to take charge of the work. The Bishop of Ely and Dean and Chapter are required to lend the parties £200 or £300 on their bond “for that they be men of the Church and such as should give provocation to others to further so good a work.” S.P. Dom. Eliz. 108. The C. of S. to aid in levying a rate in adjacent counties to assist the Isle of Ely in the cleansing and scouring and embanking the river of Wisbech.

wise from thence in the river of Wisbich to Guyhurne and more crooked will growe and more will silt up if remedy be not provided.”\* And upon their travel and view of the Ouse and Westwater, thus :—

Prest. at Wisbich 16 Sep. 1617.

Imprimis for the great River of Ouse beginning with his head above Buckingham towne and so running to Bedford towne and to Huntingdon towne and so to St Ives and so to Erith Ferry and Stretham Ferry and so to Harrymare where it meteth with Graunt river from Cambridge and so now runne together by Ely and Littleport Chare to Salters Loade, with the river from Mildnall, the river from Brandon, and the river from Stoke and then run downe with the rivers from Well and those townes by the bridge of Downham Stow Magdalen and Germans to Lynne Haven and so into the Sea which is the wrong course for the greatest part of Owse water, for the cheifest parte of such water of the sayde river of Owse in auncient tyme (as we are informed) was carried to the sea from Erith Bridge by a stream called Westwater to Chatresse ferry and so to Benwick and so in that streame to Great Cross and so to Guy-hurne and so by Wisbich river to the Sea, a farre nearer waye than now it doth, wch s<sup>d</sup> streame called Westwater is now so decayed and growen upp with wreck from Erith Bridge downwards towards Benwick that small or no part of Ouse waters runne that waye but the wrong course by Stretham afs<sup>d</sup>. to the great hurt of the townes of the Isle of Ely and other places downwards in Norff. by overloading them with more water then they ought to beare and surrounding their grounds and worse hurt will ensue if the waters of Ouse be not put into their former auncient course and therefore we think it convenient that the s<sup>d</sup> streame called Westwater before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Oct<sup>r</sup> 1618 be diked scoured haffed ffermed and made perfect according to the auncient widenes and depth by such psns who ought to doe the same and that there be then also sett and placed ij peres or jettys for the turning of as much of the water as maybe into Westwater wch s<sup>d</sup> jettys are to be done at the charge of the high country above Erith wch have their waters conveyed that way.

But when the Commissioners conceived a very hopeful issue of the regaining the last outfall of Wisbech, and made decree for widening, dikeing, and scouring Westwater, the inhabitants of Marshland and parts adjoining the Ouse petitioned the Lords of the Council for the straightening of Lynn Haven “to get rid of the many fresh waters unduly thether descending in default of ther proper outfall.”† Currents at the out-

\* The Wisbech laws of 1617 have also special findings, *e.g.*, “Item we finde that the drayn called Muscote drayn from the New Leame to Muscote House is greatly defective for want of dyking and cleansing and it is to be done by the inhabitants of Wittlesey so far as we can learn by diligent inquirie. Item we finde that the said ould Kar from Cleylake to Thorney Crosse belonging to the Cokernarie of Whittlesey is defective for want of roading and it is to be done by the lord of the Cokernarie.” Muscote should not be confused with Must-dike, which lay from Claypingles to the New Leam in Whittlesey Field, and Wittles-Mere in Eye fen should not be confused with the Mere of Whittlesey. Muscote House is not located on Moore’s map. The plan shows the ancient channel of the Nene. The new river and Horseshoe sluice works are referred to in No. 8.

† This was referred to a Special Commission, to the Earl of Arundel, &c., and Mayor of Lynn. Sir Clement reported that, “In former times Westwater at Erith Bridge used to receive the overcharge of water and to carry it by Benwick to the Ouse again, but now it doth run a contrary course and falleth into the Ouse.”

falls were wanted; hence to narrow and deepen the Ouse at Lynn seemed better than the restoration of Westwater, which began to flow the wrong way in the fourteenth century. The inhabitants of Marshland and the Commissioners were not pulling together, and the quarrel about the "duplicate commission" damped the hopes of the fenmen and gave an opportunity to the first "Undertakers" to supplant the Commissioners with a general scheme for the drainage of the Great Level.

The Commissioners, nominated from Ely and the district near the Cam river, considering that the interests of their part of the fenland were made subservient to the interests of the Level, obtained from the Privy Council a duplicate commission enabling them to hold separate sessions at Cambridge. The recital of the Law of Sewers, made at a General Session held at Huntingdon, on Feb. 24, 1618, points very clearly to the distractions and differences amongst the Commissioners, thus:—

The greate and vast waters of the rivers Ouse Neene Weyland and Grant often overflowing the banks and brymes of their defective channels as it were conspiringe the surroundinge of the large and fruitfull ffennes and marshes in the Isle of Ely and the adjacent countries And certeine selfe conceited willfull and overweeninge persons out of their owne singularity and perverse disposicons noe lesse dangerously threatenynge the iminent ruyn of those partes by spurnynge against ye authority and proceedings of those by whose providence care industry and diligence such outrages were wont to be prevented avoyded or suppressed by undew and unlawfull practizinge under pretext and collour of law to question and discourage the Commissioners their officers and ministers and to extenuate the authority of the commission of so high a nature large extent and evident necessity whereby the said countries were in great distresse and the people much distracted and perplexed upon whose peticons and complaints it pleased the Kyngs most excellent Mat<sup>tie</sup> to comaund the lords and others of his privy Councell to take consideracon of the premises.

Whoe after dew examinacon and mature deliberacon of the justnes of the said complaints did not only take presente order for punishment of such stubborne and perverse persons as had formerly opposed ye power and aucthority of the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers but also gave encouragement unto the Comm<sup>rs</sup> to proceede in their wonted courses for suppressing the violence and preventinge the danger of the said overflowinge waters and further promised their patronage and assistance unto them in their wonted necessary and due proceedings as by their honors letters and ordinances sent unto the Comm<sup>rs</sup> more evidently appeareth wch being notified and publicly read in soe great an assembly of Comm<sup>rs</sup> and inhabitants of all the cuntryes of Lyn and Northton, Norfolk, Camb<sup>s</sup>. Hunt<sup>s</sup>, and the Isle of Ely as hath seldome bine seene together at any one time before at a general Session of Sewers holden at Wisbeche the twelveth day of June last past all the hearers did with unspeakable joy and gladness apprehend

with all humble thankfulness acknowledge his Maties most gracious respect of those distressed countries and their Lopp<sup>s</sup> honorable care in the premisses. But the Comm<sup>rs</sup> thereby encouraged to proceede in the publike service according to his Maties s<sup>d</sup> Commission to them directed did forthwith give warrant and order for generall retournes to be made of xxiiij substanciall and sufficient men for jurors of every of the s<sup>d</sup> five counties and of the Isle of Ely of whome the Comm<sup>rs</sup> selecting xiiij of the most able and best experienced men out of every of the s<sup>d</sup> retournes viz lxxviiij in the whole number did give them in charge personally to take vewe diligently to enquire and truly to present upon their oathes all the defaults of all the said rivers and sewers and all the branches and outfalls of every of them. And after such view and enquiry the said jurors did upon their s<sup>d</sup> oathes with a wonderful and strange agreement and consent give up their verdict the xxvj of Sept<sup>r</sup>. last whereupon or upon their owne certeine knowledge after sundry meetings and often and serious consultacon thereabout the s<sup>d</sup> Comm<sup>rs</sup> have finally for the satisfaccon of his Maties expectacon ye performance of the direcccons of that hon<sup>ble</sup>. boord, the advancement of justice and the publike benefit of the commonwealth concluded enacted ordered and for Laws of Sewers set downe decreed and established as followeth.

The rival Commissioners began the contest for authority by countermanding one another's warrants. The New Commissioners aimed at the custody of the fen records,\* and summoned a General Session of Sewers to be holden in Cambridge Castle,† with intent to trap the Old Commissioners and make them surrender the records: and the Old Commissioners held a Session at Stilton, when the fen droves were under water, so that the Cambridge men could not be present and vote.

At Stilton, on 20 Jan., 1618, an order was made

That Nicholas Massye gent. our clerk of Sewers shall not at any time deliver any lawes ordinances decrees letters records or other writings in any wise belonging to our Court of Sewers unto any person sub pena c<sup>li</sup>. But yt he may make coppyes of any such things and deliver them to such as shall have any use therefor taking for ye same after the rate of ——— for every sheete of large paper written coppye wyse.

The Old Commission protested to the Privy Council and “were much comforted by their Lordships order of the 9th of March to proceed in the general business of the country.”

\* The Fen Office records date from 1631. Possibly the minutes and rate books of the Commissioners are extant. A good many of these papers were in the possession of Sir O. Cromwell, at Ramsey. The Fen Office was formerly at 6, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet Street.

† In 1607 only the Gatehouse stood. It was used as the common gaol of the county and dwelling of the gaoler. The Shire-hall was built at the side of it. A space of 5 acres was included within the trenches of the Castle-yard and hill, covered with “rubbage” and ruins of the castle. Q. Mary granted the old buildings to Sir John Huddleston for re-edifying his house at Sawston. Q. Eliz. granted the rents to Sir W. Mildmay towards the building of Emmanuel College, and the Earl of Suffolk for the reparation of Magdalen College. Ex. Spl. Com., 5 Jac. I. The view in Grose's Antiquities shows a gatehouse, with remains of buildings adjoining, perhaps part of the julliet, or keep; and the gallows.



Their account of the intended Session at Cambridge Castle is as follows :—\*

The said Comm<sup>rs</sup>, who countermanded the execucon of our former warrants, have granted two other warrants the one to the sheriff of Cambs and th'other to the Bailiff of the Isle to proclaim a Generall Session of Sewers to be houlden at Cambridge Castell on the 7<sup>th</sup> April next which is the day after the Quarter Sessions usuallie houlden in most counties hereabouts soe that none of the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of other counties being justices of the Peace can be there unless theie will neglect the other service; the other directed to the Clarke of the Sewers comandinge him to bring in at the day and place aforesaid all such lawes, journalls, orders and decrees of sewers together with all letters sent from yor honors concerning the same, except such lawes only as doe concerne the outfall of Nene and Wellande meaning thereby to gett all our records into their hands and so exclude us from anie further proceedings. Wee humblie thanke yor honors for yor great care of us and our distressed countries but wee can assure oureselves of noe quietness to continue unlesse yor lopps may be moved to call in the duplicatt of the Commission late sued out for Cambridgeshire in regard that our clarke of the Sewers dwells within the said County whoe hath alwaies the Commission itselfe in his custody.

The operation of the duplicate commission was restricted by order of the Council to the County of Norfolk. It was clear that Cambridgeshire men were not at one, but the University, alarmed about proposed new works likely to affect the navigation to Cambridge, joined with the Commissioners living thereabouts and notified the Council

humbly to certify yor honors that the petition exhibited to yor honorable borde was not onelie without the assent and knowledge of anie of us (being Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers inhabiting within the Co. of Camb. and Isle of Ely) but also contrarie to the humble desires both of us and the said countrie wherein we live for sithence the coming downe of the said newe commission and yor lopp<sup>s</sup> order for restraynte of the duplicate there is a General Session of Sewers summoned for all the counties conteyned within the said newe commission wch said Session is to be held the 20 of Jan<sup>ry</sup> at Stilton being a towne in the remotest part of Huntingdonshire wch is an innovation not formerly knowne in our partes to have a General Session summoned in this Winter season of the year, the whole levell of the surrounded groundes subjecte to the authoritie of the Comm<sup>rs</sup> lying usuallie, as nowe it dothe, deep under water so as neither the sewers nor the defects thereof can be discerned neither can the Comm<sup>rs</sup> or the Countrie, the ordinarie passages being all drowned, travell out of ther owne limitts without great inconvenience and hazard.†

In response to this application the Council sent their hearty commendations to the General Sessions, and required the respite of any lawes made on the 20th January, at Stilton,

\* Dom. Jac. I., vol. 107, from Wisbech, 16th March, 1618, old style. Present F. Fane, M. Sandys, R. Bevill, H. Kervill, H. Cromwell, W. Hake, S. Bell, R. Colville, J. Fincham and other men. Sir M. Sandys, whose property was at Over and Wilberton, seems to have opposed the Cambridge men.

† Dom. Jac. I., vol. 105, 57.

touching Cambridge and the Isle of Ely, and the stay of new cuts and works on the rivers Grant and Ouse which cannot be made without hindrance of navigation to the town of Cambridge. The Vice-Chancellor and the Mayor of Cambridge began to take an active part in the work of the Commissioners of Sewers, whose new works in the channel of the Ouse menaced the supplies of the University and the trade of the town. But it could not be denied that new works were necessary. The old drains of the Isle, properly so called, were cut when the drainage flowed by Westwater to the Wisbech outfall, and, in 1618, the only way to get rid of the water was by the Ouse to the Lynn outfall. The river was blocked with weirs and hards, eight of the latter between Overcote and Harrimere. Sir Clement thought Sutton lode, from Westwater to Littleport, ought to be opened, but the order made for that purpose was stayed by a letter from the Privy Council. This difference about opening Sutton lode was referred to the Earl of Arundel, Sir Will. Ayloff, and Anthony Thomas, Esq., to view and report thereon. These referees, finding that the dispute about the taxation for new work was the chief obstacle, made a report to the Council and submitted a proposal for an undertaking of their own for draining the Great Level. They had "resolved, by God's help, at their own and their friends charges and expences without raising or levying any taxes, contributions or sums of money of or upon the inhabitants to venture the enterprising of all or the most part, yea, of many thousand acres of the fens or surrounded grounds and to make them dry and to be good and profitable meadows and pastures and so to continue."

On May 17, 1619, the Undertakers submitted their proposals to the Council. The recompence they sought was:—

(1) A charge of 4d. an acre on the King's land recovered from surrounding ;

(2) Two-third part of the Prince's lands ;

(3) And half of other land ;

and they hoped to complete the draining within three years.

This was the first proposal for the draining of the Great Level by a contract between the Lords and Commoners in the Fens with "Undertakers," pursuant to the General Drainage Act, 1601, 43 Eliz., c. 11.

The preamble of the Act recites the advantages of reclaiming marshes and fenny grounds, "and because the draining and making dry and profitable of those surrounded grounds is chiefly hindered for that the greater part of them are wastes and commons subject yearly to surrounding wherein divers have common by prescription by reason of their residency and inhabitancy, which kind of commons nor their interest therein can by the common law be extinguished or granted to bind others which should inhabit there afterwards," and proceeds to enact that the lords of the manors and majority of the commoners and owners interested in surrounded grounds lying near the fens "may contract or bargain for part of such commons wastes and severals with such persons which will undertake the draining and keeping dry perpetually the severals wastes and commons of that quality." Crown interests were not to be bound without the royal consent, given under seal and certified into the Court of Chancery.

The king was persuaded that the Undertakers were to replenish his meagre exchequer. His majesty wrote to the Commissioners of Sewers "We recommend them and their design to your especial care to further them with your authority and if any be refractory that you correct and chastise their obstinacy according to justice." At a Session of Sewers held at Peterborough\* at this time, the Undertakers presented themselves "with their large promises which gave cause to fools to wonder at them but to wise men and of experience to smyle at them and suspect their attempts." Their want of knowledge about the difficulties involved

\* Held at Peterborough, 8th September, 1619.

astonished the Commissioners. They were invited to reduce their project to writing, and in so doing made mention of "fresh and salt fennes." The Court smiled, and Mr. Buckworth\* asked if they meant salt marshes. "If by our industry those grounds are bettered we expect to have a sufficient consideration for the same" they replied; but salt marshes are drowned every day by the ebbing and flowing of the sea, and there could be no such thing as a salt fen—perhaps they meant salt grounds surrounded at low water mark—and they were likely to have accepted this amendment had not Mr. Kerville† nudged them, indicating that they had better be careful about undertaking to recover the bottom of the sea.

In the end the Commissioners gave their consent for the Undertakers to proceed with their works, but before so doing they should give security that they would in no way impair the navigation of the Ouse, Nene, and Welland, and they reported thus to the Council:—

To the right honorable the lords and others of his Maties most honble. Privye Councell these

After the remembrance of o<sup>r</sup> humble dutyes to yo<sup>r</sup> honors Maye it please the same to be advertised that we have receyved yo<sup>r</sup> lres of the 5<sup>th</sup> of December wheareby we understande that it hath bene suggested unto yo<sup>r</sup> honors that the undertenants and others in o<sup>r</sup> Contrye have referred the matter of agreement with the undertakers unto us and others o<sup>r</sup> fellow comm<sup>rs</sup> wch we assure yo<sup>r</sup> Lopp<sup>s</sup>. is nothing so, for no longer since then on Mundaye last wch was the daye before o<sup>r</sup> genrall session of Sewers we called before us at Peterborow the better sort of the Inhabitants of all the Townes Villages and hamlets wch have interest in our comon fennes and did partake unto them the demaunds of the undertakers wch weare these viz<sup>t</sup>. for a ffenn called Burrow Greate ffenn (for wch theare was then publiquely offered viii<sup>s</sup> per acre in the state whearin it nowe is) the moytye or half of the same; and for Burrow Little ffenn (for wch theare was also xii<sup>s</sup> per acre offered) the thirde parte of the same wch demands our contreyemen heylde so unreasonable that they would by no meanes a longe tyme be inducd to make them anye offer at all but at the length by o<sup>r</sup>.

\* Mr. Everard Buckworth, of White Hall, He held property in Romers Marsh, and about Wisbech. Evidently a man of spirit. In a suit, *Cole v. Buckworth*, about chantry lands which Mr. B. challenged as a part of his estate, the Commissioners reported to the Court of Exchequer, "We withdrawing ourselves into a private chamber and there having the Commission layd before us and then requested by Mr. Cole to proceed in the business, Mr. E. Buckworth with two others in his company, whose names we know not, having a butchers axe, a clyver and other weapons in their hands did with great violence breake the dore upon us." A party had a right to be present.

† Mr. Kerville, of Hackbech Hall, in Marshland. In 1620, the P.C. sent Sir Clement with a serjeant to fetch Sir Edw. Carville, a recusant, and suspected to be treasurer of funds of papists.

ymportunetye we drewe them to consider of the greate benefytt they should receyve by the generall drayninge. After wch consideracon they offered to yeilde to the undertakers the ffortithe p<sup>te</sup> of the surrounded grounde in the great ffenn and for the little ffenn the commoners weare not content to contract. We acquainted the undertakers w<sup>th</sup>. ther offer wch they refused to accepte: for wch cause and for that the poore commoners have this daye incessantly cryed out unto us not to geve awaye ther comon we have for this time broke of our meetinge. And wee doe earnestly desire that wee maye understande of ther agreement with the gentlemen and others of the Isle of Ely and Cambridgeshire by and thorowe wch partes we must passe our waters, before we entertayne any further conference w<sup>th</sup> the undertakers And soe we humblye take o<sup>r</sup> leaves resting

Yor hon<sup>rs</sup>. ready to be comanded

ffrom o<sup>r</sup> Sessions of Sewers holden at  
Peterborowe 21<sup>mo</sup> December 1619.

Tho: Petriburg.

F. Fane	Miles Sandys
Will. FitzWilliam	Humfrey Orme
Euseb: Catesbye	William Hake
Tho: Glapthorne	

The Commissioners took a sound view of the authority conferred on them by the Commission of Sewers. It restricted their power to charge landholders towards a general work in respect of the benefits which they might derive therefrom, and they were not invested with power to grant any man's holding to the Undertakers. The King was then at Newmarket, so Sir Anthony Thomas, one of the Undertakers, rode over to inform him of the opposition to the "project," who referred the business to the Privy Council "so that there the whole matter might be thoroughly debated to give every man satisfaction so farr as might be and the enterprise being so worthy his Majesty would vouchsafe to honor the consultation with his own presence."\*

On that occasion many debates arose.

L.G.

954.—**The Liberty of Peterborough (803).**—*The Eight Hundreds. The Liberty Gaol. Charter of King Henry VII., A.D. 1492.*

In Saxon times the Abbot of Burgh S. Peter exercised in this Liberty of the Eight Hundreds criminal jurisdiction, exclusive of that of the Sheriff of the County of Northampton. King

\* Dom. Jac. I., vol. 112, 61. 4 Feb., 1619.

Edgar's Charter, A.D. 972, bears no doubtful meaning. It grants "villam quoque Undale cum toto jure adjacentium quod Ethenhundred anglie nominatur donamus quatinus nec comes nec vicecomes ulla dominatione occupare presumat." To the like effect is the Charter of Richard I., which grants and confirms to the Abbot "hundreda eciam sua Eyhtehundred cum omnibus libertatibus suis."\* Several of the eight hundreds are now merged in adjoining hundreds in the County. They were known as the hundreds of the Vill of Burgh,† Nassaburgh, Pokebroke, Navisford, Hokeslow, North Navislund, South Navislund and the Vill of Thingden. The common gaol was at Peterborough, within the precincts of the abbey, and from earliest times there was issued one commission of gaol delivery of all prisoners from the eight hundreds.‡ The prison was little used and ruinous, but the Abbot was jealous of his privileges and resented an encroachment by the Sheriff, who, in A.D. 1275, when a riot with murder was perpetrated in Nassaburgh, seized and conveyed the offenders to Northampton. The Peterborough Chronicle§ gives a full account of the affair:—"The case was this. One Henry Sampson, clerk, who owned land and a house in the town of Wittering of the fee of Hugo Ridel, enfeoffed a number of religious without the consent of the lord of the fee, who when he heard of its having assembled, a large number of men from the Abbot's liberty, by force and with arms entered into possession, when it happened that one of the tenants of the Abbot, who was on the side of Henry Sampson, was killed and his wife laid a criminal appeal in the County of Northampton against 29 men of the Liberty for the death of

\* Henry II. Charter confirmed the eight hundreds to the Abbot and like enforcement of justice therein; and Henry III. Charter reads "hundreda eciam sua que Ethehundred dicuntur cum omnibus libertatibus suis." Ch. R., 2 Hy. III., Pt. I.

† The separate hundred of the Vill of Burgh should be noticed. In the 18th century this distinction caused a suit between the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough and Lord Exeter, the grantee of the Liberty of Nassaburgh.

‡ Commissions are endorsed on the patent rolls 2 Edward I., and A.D. 1272. The Justices were Geof. de la Mare, Geof. de St. Maur, Roger de la Hide, John de Helpeston.

§ *Chron. Petroburgense*. The MS. belongs to the Society of Antiquaries. It was printed by the Camden Society in 1849.

her husband.\* Thereupon Robert de Scefeud steward of the Liberty proceeded to Northampton and claimed the release of the prisoners to have them adjudged at Peterborough. And after many disputes trials and expences he prevailed. For this reason Gilbert de Kirkeby the sheriff with all his might assailed the Liberty." But the Abbot boldly pursued the privilege of his house. In A.D. 1275, the King sent his mandate to the Sheriff forbidding him to proceed to the outlawry of the prisoners at Peterborough for the death of Wolnoth de Kempeston as the Abbot claimed to have the liberty that prisoners detained there for any trespasses whatsoever ought to be adjudged there. The goods of fugitives and felons hanged within the liberty were forfeited† to the Abbot. From 1274 to 1280 the account of forfeits of felons hanged and fines for murder are as follows :—‡

## NASSUS BURGI.

Burgus—de villata de Burgo de catallis Johannis le Lavendere fugitivi.....	xii <sup>s</sup>	ix <sup>d</sup>
de catallis Gilberti de Estfelde, felonis fugitivi .....		xiii <sup>d</sup>
de catallis Johannis Sletto felonis .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	
de catallis Thome le Rede, latronis suspensi .....		vi <sup>d</sup>
Upton—de catallis Thome Scot fugitivi .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	
de catallis Willelmi Notting qui occidit uxorem suam ...		xv <sup>s</sup>
de catallis Johannis Stagge latronis suspensi.....	iiiij <sup>li</sup>	vi <sup>s</sup>
Bernake—de catallis Johannis de Everdona qui ibidem abjuravit regnum .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	
de catallis Thome de Stirope qui abjuravit regnum .....	ij <sup>s</sup>	
Wytheringtona—de catallis Reyneri de Depinge qui abjuravit regnum.....		vi <sup>s</sup>
de catallis Johannis de Derby qui abjuravit regnum.....	iiij <sup>s</sup>	
Marham—de catallis Roberti Capellani felonis .....	xiiiij <sup>s</sup>	
Pilesgate—de catallis Roberti clerici de Ettona felonis .....		xij <sup>d</sup>
Wodecrofte—de catallis Gilberti filii Ranulphi qui infortunio occidit matrem suam .....		viiij <sup>d</sup>
Helpestona—de catallis Rogeri filii Rogeri Bastard latronis suspensi .....	iiij	viiij <sup>d</sup>
de catallis Reginaldi le Bracer, latronis suspensi .....	iiii <sup>li</sup>	
de eadem villata, de anno et vasto terrarum ejusdem ...	iiij <sup>s</sup>	

\* A prosecution at the instance of next-of-kin. The appellor gave pledges to prosecute the appeal. Appeals of murder and trial by battle were abolished in 1819 by 59 Geo. III., c. 46.

† The Forfeiture Act, 1870, 33 and 34 V., c. 23, abolished forfeitures for treason, felony, and felo-de-se, except when consequent upon outlawry, and repealed the enactment relating to convicts for treason being drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, and the severing of the head from the body and dividing the body into four quarters.

‡ *Chron. Petrob. temp. Ric. de London*, f. 120.

de eadem villata, Johannis Malle lat: susp:.....	ii <sup>s</sup>	vi
de eadem villata, Willelmi Noceman lat <sup>s</sup> : susp:.....	xi <sup>s</sup>	
de eadem villata, de anno et vasto terrarum ipsius, unde Willelmus de Helpstona fecit fieri cum justiciariis	vi <sup>s</sup>	
Castre—de catallis Thome le Rede lat: susp: .....		vi <sup>d</sup>
de catallis Ricardi Parys clerici, episcopo liberati pro felonia .....	lxxviii <sup>s</sup>	viii <sup>d</sup>

Ten years later, 13 Edward I., the Abbot was summoned to show by what warrant he kept a prison at Burgh. He pleaded that he and his predecessors had enjoyed the privilege time out of mind, and alleged that the King's justices ought to deliver the prisoners. The claim was allowed and confirmed by the King and his Council. The privilege is not without its burdens. It involves the obligation to keep a secure prison and to repair the fabric; and a liability to be fined for the escape of prisoners, no uncommon occurrence. This writ relates to an escape and a claim of sanctuary in the cemetery of the minster:—

Rex constabulare ville de Burgo sci Petri. Saltm Quia datum est nobis intelligi qd Johes Marchaunt, Will Taborer, Joh: Bocher et Ric. Tusinere nuper in gaola nra ville p'dict pro diversis feloniiis per ipsos ut dicitur ppetratis existentes gaolam nram prdcam frerunt et ab eadem gaola usque ad eccliam beati Petri ibm evaserunt imunitatem ecclie pdcte clamando Nos volentes ipsos Johem et Willum Johem et Ricum super comissis suis secundum legem et consuetudinem regni nri Anglie nobis precipimus firmiter injungentes qd pro custodio ipor Johis Willi Johis et Rici in hac parte tam discrete ac salve et secure juxta leges et consuetudines regni nri Anglie ordinetis qd ipsi ab ecclia p'dicta et cimeterio ejusdem quousque eidem Johes Wills. Johes et Ricu. felonias per ipsos ut p'dctum est ppetratis coram coronatoribus nris in Com: Norht. cognoverint et regnum nrum prdcam abjuraverint in forma juris seu se ad stand legi super comissis suis in hac parte reddere voluerint non evadant ullo modo Teste me ipso, &c.

The King to the Constable of the town of Burgh S. Peter Greeting. Forasmuch as we are given to understand that John Marchaunt, William Taborer, John Bocher and Richard Tusinere lately being in our gaol of the foresaid town on account of divers felonies by them said to have been committed have broken our aforesaid gaol and escaped to the church of blessed Peter there claiming the immunity of the said church. We, desiring to have justice done to the same John, William, John and Richard for their offences according to the law and custom of our Kingdom of England, command you strictly



charging that you in this behalf so discreetly and securely take order according to law and custom that they be removed from the church and cemetery until they be taken before our coroners and have abjured the Kingdom in form of law or have elected to stand their trials at law for their offences, and that they by no means escape. Witness myself, &c.\*

The Charter of 8 Henry VII., on which King Edward VII.'s commission to the Justices of the Liberty is founded, like the earlier charters, contains a non-intromittat clause which precludes the Sheriff of the County of Northampton from exercising his authority in the Liberty: this keeps the prisoners out of his custody so that the ordinary commission of gaol delivery of the justices of assize did not entitle them to deliver prisoners in the Liberty gaol, but it does not as the Abbots thought exclude the power of the justices of the King's Court to deliver a prisoner from the Liberty gaol by issue of a writ of habeas corpus. An entry of such a writ occurs at f. 140 Reg., Deeping, A.D. 1430, and the Abbot had to obey; but the Liberty justices have contested the efficacy of that writ even in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century.

The writ was as follows:—

Henricus dei gra Rex Angl: et franc: dns Hibn custodi gaole Abbacie de Burgo Sci Petri Saltm Precipimus tibi firmiter injungentes q<sup>d</sup> corpus Thome Colvyle nuper de Sutton in com: Norht: husbondman in prisona nra sub custodia tua detent ut dicitur una cum causa detencois sue in eadem habeas coram nobis in crastino Sci Martini ubicunque tunc fuerimus in Anglia ad respondend nobis de placito contemptus et transgressionis et habeas ibi hoc bre. T. W. Cheyn apud Westm<sup>r</sup> xvij die Octob: Anno r. r. decimo.

The Liberty of Peterborough is the last county franchise which retains the power to punish by death. The similar jurisdiction of St. Albans was abolished by 37 and 38 Vict. c. 45, which recites that the ancient Liberty of Saint Albans, in the county of Hertford, has a separate commission of the peace, and other privileges, franchises, and jurisdictions, and

\* Sanctuary was abolished in 1604. The sanctuary-man had, within 40 days of taking refuge, to confess his felony before the coroner and take oath of perpetual banishment from the realm. In 1530, branding in the hand and abode in a sanctuary were substituted for banishment. After the "suppression," the jurisdictions of the Abbots were revived, except privilege of sanctuary in church and churchyards or cemeteries for tuition of transgressors.

enacts that there be one commission of the peace for the whole county of Hertford, the county being formed into two divisions with a view to the better transaction of public business and the administration of justice at quarter sessions, and that the privileges, franchises, and jurisdiction of the Liberty do cease. If the Liberty of Peterborough were abolished, no doubt the County of Northampton would be formed into two divisions with one commission of the peace, but 13 and 14 Viet. c. 105 facilitates the union of liberties with counties in which they are situate. The justices can petition the King, and the custos rotulorum of the county will then take possession of the liberty records, but the justices are tenacious of their privileges, and in order to understand them and the history of the gaol the charter of Henry VII. must be read. It is as follows :—

Rex omnibus ad quos &c. Saltm.

Pro Abbe de Burgo sci Petri Cum Dns Edwardus nuper Rex Anglie quartus progenitor nror per lras suas patentes quarum dat est vicissimo die martii anno regni sui secundo concesserit Rico tunc Abbi de Burgo sci Petri et successoribus suis inter alia quod ipse et successores sui per lras suas patentes facere possint constituere et assignare inperpetuum justic suos ad omnes et singulos prisones infra gaolam suam de Burgo sci Petri predict jam existent et exnunc exstituros deliband quociens et quando sibi placuerit et quod idem justic sic per eos et Abbem et Conventum et successores suos faciend constituend et assignand eandem potestatem et auctoritatem habeant ad omnia et singula ea faciend exequend et exercend que ad delibacoem prisone dicti gaole nri pertinent et aliquo modo spectant seu pertinere et spectare debent prout justic sui per ipsum Dom. Regem heredes seu successores sui auctoritate lrar suar patent heredum aut successor suor pro delibacoe prisone gaole sue infra Regnum suum Anglie habent seu habere deberent inde faciend exercend et exequend Ita tamen quod unus justic suor ad pacem in Com. Norht conservand assignand de le quorum pro tempore existen vel alius jurisperitus sit unus commissarior per dom Abbem et conventum deputand ad p'dcam gaolam deliband prout plenius in dict lris patentis continet. Sciatis quod nos certis consideraconibz nos specialiter moventz dedimus et per presentes damus et concedimus Willimo nunc Abbati de Burgo predict et successoribus suis quod ipsi et successores sui habent potestatem et auctoritatem de tempore in tempus ad eor libitum inperpetuum faciend ordinand et constituand ac habeant et constituent ac facere et constituere possint tres vel quatuor sufficientes personas quarum unus in lege terre sit eruditus justic ad pacem per et infra totum burgum de Peterburg ac in per et infra omnia dominia dicti Abbatis et Conventus in com: Norht: ad quecunque felon: transgressiones et alia malefacta infra Burgum sive dominia dicti Abbatis et Conventus in com: predicto ibidem quociens necesse fuerit pro nobis et heredibus nostris inquirend audiend et terminand ac ad faciend omnia et singula ad officia hujusmodi justic pertinent et tam largiter modo et forma prout justic: ad pacem necnon ad felon: transgressiones et alia malefacta

quecunque in aliquo com: regni nostri Anglie faciunt seu facere inquirere audire et terminare possint et hoc per mandatum sive warantum ab aliquo hujusmodi justic: sic constituend ballivo Abbatis de Burgo predict pro tempore existent dirigend seu faciend Quequidem ballivus sic pro tempore existens inperpetuum habeat potestatem et auctoritatem de tempore in tempus inperpetuum vigore hujusmodi waranti tam ad faciend sumonicoem districcoem retorn execucones brevium preceptorum mandat: et judiciorum infra Burgum et dominia predict: ac omnia singula alia processus et delibacones ad officium hujusmodi justic et sessiones ad pacem tangen que ad officium vicomit in aliquo com regni nri Anglie in ea parte pertinet aut pertinere debet Et ulterius dedimus et concessimus prefato Abbati et successoribus suis per presentes quod ipse et successores sui habeant potestatem et auctoritatem de tempore in tempus inperpetuum faciend ordinand et constituend sufficient personam essend Coronatorem per et infra Burgum et dnia p<sup>r</sup>dict ad faciend et exequend omnia et singula infra Burgum et dnia p<sup>r</sup>dict que ad officium coronatoris pertinent et quod quilt hujusmodi coronator sic ordinat et constitut habeat potestatem et auctoritatem ad faciend omnia et singula per et infra Burgum et dnia illa que ad officium coronatoris pertinent in tam largiter modo et forma prout aliquis coronator in aliquo com. regni nri Angl. facere vel exequi poterit Ita quod nullus coronator in Com. p<sup>r</sup>dto qui nunc est vel imposterum erit aliquod quod ad officium coronatoris pertinet iufra Burgum ac infra omnia dnia p<sup>r</sup>dict nec ullo modo se intromittat faciat neque exequat Et quod idem coronator pro tempore existend habeat potestatem ad faciend omnia warranta precepta et mandata et omnia singula alia processus que ad officium coronatoris in ea parte pertinent Ballivo dicti Abbatis de Burgo absque eo quod aliquis vicecomit nri vel hered seu successor nrer in com: predict ad aliquod quod in ea parte ad officium vicecomitis pertinet infra Burgum seu dnia p<sup>r</sup>dict ullo modo se intromittat faciat seu exequat In cujus &c. Teste Rege apud Westminst<sup>r</sup>. xxvij die Junii per breve de privato sigillo et de dat id.\*

The Liberty gaol was delivered by the justices nominated by the Abbots till A.D. 1536,† when it was found prejudicial to the royal authority and to the hindrance of justice that any subject should have power to appoint justices of gaol delivery. May be the condition that there must be one justice expert in the law of the land could not be satisfied. The Court was not troubled by counsel then. Prisoners on trial for felony were not allowed counsel because the evidence to convict must be so manifest that it cannot be contradicted: but in 1836 it was declared to be just and reasonable that prisoners should make full answer and defence by counsel.‡

L. GACHES.

\* Pat. 8 Hy. VII., pt. 2, m. 15.

† 27 Henry VIII., c. 24.

‡ 6 and 7 Will. IV., c. 114. Witnesses for the prisoner were not sworn till 1701—1 A., Stat. 2, c. 10.

**955.—Bishop Cumberland's Trunk.**—An amusing note occurs in Kennett's MSS. in the British Museum (Vol. 56, p. 47: Lansd. 990) relating to Bishop Cumberland's papers. The entry in the Index is this :—

“A Mem. of what happned at the Deanery upon opening the supposed Trunk of Writings left by Bp. Cumb.”

The Mr. Pain referred to is probably Squire Payne, Rector of Barnack, who married Bishop Cumberland's daughter Susanna (Art. 417). The writer, Thomas Gibson, seems to be the Rector of Paston (1720—1759), who became Prebendary of the Cathedral in 1726, and who, according to the epitaph at Paston Church, “Added very Signally to his Felicitye in Life By his Marriage with Mrs. Sarah Howse, Niece to Bishop Kennett his Munificent Friend & Patron.”

Memorand

That by the advice & direction of Mr. Archdeacon Cumberland & by the consent of Mr. Dean I was named & appointed to receive the Papers w<sup>ch</sup>. Mr. Dean then confess'd he had in his custody relating to the Church of Peterborough, for the use of my Lord Bishop of Peterborongh D<sup>r</sup>. Wh. Kennet. In consequence of this Advice direction and consent I was sent by my Lord Bishop this day sen'night (*sic*), being the 16<sup>th</sup> of this Instant, to Mr. Dean's to receive these Papers, who order'd a Box or trunk to be brought into the Hall where I then waited, & upon not readily finding the key, he made it be broken open. In w<sup>ch</sup>. to Mr. Dean's very great surprise, & I must confess to my own, we only found an old pair of small Globes rotten & mouldy to the last degree. Mr. Dean said y<sup>t</sup>. that was the only Box he had delivered to him as containing writings, but he now found that Mr. Pain even in this had outwitted him, & he believed was in possession of the Papers now sought for. This is the truth of what happned on this occasion.

August 23d, 1720,

Tho: Gibson,

956.—“**Sarvey.**”—I came across this word recently and can make nothing of it. Can any of your readers enlighten me?

A gardener was describing some of his newly dug potatoes as unsatisfactory, and explaining in what respects they were so. He said they were “sarvey”; he used the word three times, and with clear enunciation on each occasion. It was evident that he meant something like sad or sodden, or the opposite to light and floury; but “sarvey” cannot mean quite the same thing as “sad”; and perhaps the word had reference rather to the ill set and somewhat watery condition in which we sometimes find immature potatoes: such tubers appear sad when cooked, and their interior aspect is not attractive.

I cannot find the word in any dictionary, and I can only spell it phonetically. It was used by an illiterate man, and may possibly be a much corrupt form of some more familiar word. I cannot however suggest any origin for it.

Sibsey.

F.B.

957.—**Cambridgeshire Baskets.**—Is there any memory of the time when this county had a reputation for basket-work? It seems reasonable to think that the abundance of osiers would encourage such employment, and that the workers might become proficient. The extract here given is from *Magna Britannia et Hibernia*, the edition in six volumes published in 1720. The work professes to be founded upon “the Typographical Account given by Mr. *Cambden*, and the late Editors of his *Britannia.*” As will be seen the county is said to have been famous for manufacture of paper as well as baskets.

As to the Natural History of this County, we have this Account of it: The Soil is good or bad in the extreams, but the Air is not healthy; and were it not for its Plentifulness, Conveniency for Sports, and its Neighbourhood to the University, it would neither be inhabited so much as it is, nor so often visited by Strangers. It is famous for Plenty of Eels, (from whence the Country where they are chiefly taken is called *Ely*, as Dr. *Fuller* believes,) for Hare-hunting, and the Horse-Races about *New-Market*. The Land of this County is found to produce Saffron, as well as that about *Walden* in *Essex*; so that as it decreases in the planting near the

latter, it increases here. It is an excellent Flower, and if it yielded not any great Profit, (which yet it does sometimes) the planting of it ought to be encouraged, because it employs the Poor. Not long since the best Paper and Baskets in *England* were made in this County. *Martial* seems to speak of them, saying,—*Veni Bascauda Britannis; i.e.* Baskets come from *Britain*. Of late Years two very considerable Improvements have been made in the Soil and Air of this County, the first by planting Cinquefoil, which being brought from foreign Parts, and sown upon dry and barren Grounds, has improv'd some Lands from 5s. to 30s. per Acre. The other is effected by draining the Fens in the Isle of *Ely*, which, tho' it was indeed brought about at a wonderful Expence, yet hath turned to a double Account, in gaining much Ground, mending the rest, and in refining and clearing the Air. Besides the Corn, Trees, and other Plants which are common to this Country with others, there are some which are here produced in greater Plenty than elsewhere, as *Scordium*, or Water-Germander, upon the Sides of the *Fen-Ditches*, and *St. Peter's-Wort* in the little Woods and low places of this County. Others are more rare, and almost peculiar to it, as we may see in the large Catalogue annexed to this County, after the Notes in the last Edition of the *Britannia* by Dr. *Gibon*, as also in that great Botanist's Book Mr. *John Ray* of *Notley* in *Essex*, which he wrote of the Herbs he had taken Notice of in *Cambridgeshire*, and where he names the Places in which they grow. The Fens about *Cambridge* afford great Plenty of Fish, which makes them wonderous cheap. The Tide about *Wisbech* is observed to rise high always upon a North-East Wind.

Upon referring to the passage in *Martial* which the writer has in mind, we find an epigram of two lines only (xiv., 99); and though *Britain* is certainly credited with the production of baskets, yet there is nothing to connect their production with the Fenland.

Barbara de pictis veni bascauda Britannis:

Sed me jam mavult dicere Roma suam.

The word "bascauda," here taken to mean *basket*, occurs in only one other passage in classical Latin, and the meaning is consequently only conjectured. In *Andrews' Latin Dictionary* it is said to be "a British word," and it is stated that *basgawd* is a Welsh word for basket.

ED.

958.—**Moulton, Lincolnshire (941).**—This translation is taken from what are called the fourth and fifth parts or portions of the Register of Spalding, written in a large strong hand of the fourteenth century. It is a large folio book written on vellum. (Brit. Mus. MSS. Harl. 742, 94.)

Having seen regarding the charters and muniments touching the Priory of Spalding in Spalding, we will now take a view of the charters and muniments touching the Prior and

Convent of Spalding in Multone, which town depends upon the Manor of Spalding, which appears certain, because the tenants of the Prior of Spalding in Multone, on account of their contracts and misdemeanours struck and committed in the fee of the Prior, assemble in the court of the Prior of Spalding at Spalding. Likewise the Prior in his said court of Spalding has control over the bakers and brewers and the vendors of bread and ale in his fee in Multone. Likewise the residents in the fee of the Prior at Multone are in frank pledge of the Prior in the same court of Spalding, and come there for the purpose of making view of frank pledge, in those matters which touch the articles of frank pledge and their emendation. Likewise the gallows of the Prior of Spalding in Spalding serve for those condemned in his court of Spalding, taken in his fee of Multone, and convicted of felony in the court of Spalding. Likewise the right of patronage of the Church of Multone belongs to the Manor of the Prior of Spalding in Spalding, and pertained to it of old time, and in like manner all the premises depended upon the same Manor, and belong to the lords of the same, by reason of the said Manor, and they so belonged of old time, as appears by allotment made in the Itinerary of the Justices of Lincoln, above, in the second part, where it is first to be seen regarding the charters and muniments made between the Prior and the Lord of Multone.

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To resume the extracts from Cole's MSS. The following are taken from Vol. XLIII of his collections. (Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 5844, pp. 282, &c.) The heading is "*Liberi Tenentes Prioris in Multon, et quantum quilibet tenet, et per que servicia.*" The tenures are here translated from the Latin: Cole's remarks are given in inverted commas at the places where they occur. The remainder of the lists will be given hereafter.

The Free Tenants of the Prior in Molton, and how much each one holds, and by what services.

The Bovate of Herbert the Chaplain. The Prior of Spalding holds a bovate in demesne, namely, the bovate of Herbert the Chaplain, and he makes a trench for the sea and marsh; and [performs] all the common duties of the town, according to the quantity of the bovate.

The Bovate of Gove and Grick. The Prior of Spalding holds a bovate in demesne, namely, the bovate of Gove and Grick, and he makes a trench for the sea and marsh, and [performs] all the common duties of the town, according to the quantity of the bovate.

Gilbert, son of Elger, holds one acre of land of Gilbert de Pinceb', at a rent of 6d. yearly, whence Gilbert makes a trench for the sea and commons for himself. Likewise he holds one acre and a half at a rent of 2s. yearly, and the Prior claims (*defendit*) the trench for the sea and marsh.

William, son of Lambert, the clerk, holds an acre and three roods [*? stong'*] at a rent of 2s. yearly. He owes fealty.

The Bovate of William, son of Hugh, John, son of William, son of Hugh, holds two bovates and a half at a rent of 6s. 8d., etc.

The Bovate of Kede. Robert Kede holds the third part of two bovates at a rent of 20d. Hugh Cuth, and Richard his brother, hold the eighth part of two bovates, etc.; they do not give 7d., which are called Herth Pennies, at the feast of S. Botulph, nor pannage, but he performs (*sic, facit*) all other customs like the aforesaid Nigel.

“No Nigellus is mentioned in any Article before this.”

The Bovate of Wido. Haldan, son of Wido, and Roger his brother hold the third part of one bovate.

Alger' and Thomas le Burgeis hold the third part of one bovate, etc.

The Bovate of Geri. The Tenants of the Prior in bondage at Multon, and how much each one holds, and by what services. Nigel Geri holds the sixth part of one bovate, namely, 20 acres, 3 roods (*? stong'*), 20 perches, paying at the



feast of S. Michael, 2d., at the feast of S. Nicholas, 1d., at Easter, 1½d., and at the feast of S. Botulph, 1½d., and seven pence, which are called Herth-pennies, namely, at the feast of S. Botulph ; and he gives the aid of Beltisford, namely, all Sokemen 1 mark. And he gives Starlode 9d. And he gives Carucage, at the feast of S. Martin and S. Botulph, for each entire plough-land (*caruca*) 28d. yearly. And he does three days' work (*precaria*) with a plough in Lent, as is joined to his own land, after the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and according to what is then joined he shall give a portion of the carucage as above.\* And he shall harrow with his own horses the whole land which his plough shall have ploughed ; and he shall procure the seed at the lord's granary, and shall convey it to the land and sow it, and all this without food.† Also he does one day's work with a plough, if he has one, or as he ploughs on his own land, which is called Lovebote, at the winter sowing, at the lord's food,‡ without harrowing. And he does three days' work in autumn with the sickle, at the lord's food. Likewise he gives pannage for pigs at the feast of S. Martin, namely, for an old pig, 1d., and for a little pig, half a year old, ½d. And in the first year, for each sow that he shall have, 1d., and afterward, during the whole life of the sow, nothing. Likewise he gives tallage, more or less, according to the will of the lord. Likewise he gives merchet§ for his daughter at the lord's will. Likewise he makes a trench for the sea and marsh, and [performs] all other common duties of the town, according to the size of his holding. He may not make his son a clerk without the lord's will. And if he shall be bailiff (*prepositus*) he shall give to the lord as a present (*in exennium*) on the third day after the lord's birthday, one *freceingum*, and 20 cocks or hens to the extent that

\* This seems to mean that the tenant is responsible for a due proportion of the carucage, which was a tribute imposed upon ploughs and plough-lands, when he ploughed the adjacent land of a neighbour.

† Without a lowance for food.

‡ The lord of the manor supplying food.

§ A fine payable for licence to give his daughter in marriage.

he may lawfully receive of each, namely, *eman* one cock or hen. He holds also half an acre of land of Gilbert Ategrene, at an annual rent of 3d. Also he holds of the land of Roger Buliston 2 acres, paying of new farm 16½d. yearly. Likewise, for 2 acres 20 perches of the aforesaid Roger, he pays 5d. Likewise his daughter ought to give Leirwith.

“There is a word or 2, very plainly wrote, which I dont comprehend: *eman*, & just before it *frecemgw*.”

“Commencement Sunday July 5. 1772. the latest that can possibly happen, as Commencement Tuesday is always the first Tuesday in July, & this year it will be the 7th. See this better explained at p. 290.”\*

Adam his brother holds the 6th part of one bovate, namely, 16 acres, 20 perches, paying at the feast of S. Michael, 2d., at the feast of S. Nicholas, 1¼d., at the feast of S. Botulph, 1¼d. And he gives 7d. which are called Herthpennies at the feast of S. Botulph. And he performs all other customs like the aforesaid Nigel. Likewise he holds half an acre of land of Gilbert Ategrene, and pays of new farm, 3d. Likewise in the Marsh 2 acres 1 stong. “No Pasch. named.”

Robert Geri, Ralph Geri, Thomas Geri, hold the third part of one bovate, namely, 31½ acres, paying 10d. at four equal terms, and each of them gives 7d., etc. Likewise the same persons hold 2 acres of land of Gilbert Ategrene, for 2s. of new farm. Likewise Robert Geri for 4 acres of land of Randolph de Haldewelle, for 18d. of new farm.

Adam, son of Hugh, Roger Laurot, Emma, wife of Alan, hold the third part of a bovate, namely, 30½ acres, paying yearly 10½d. And each of them gives 7d. which are called Herthpennies at the feast of S. Botulph, and perform all other customs at the feast of S. Botulph like Nigel. Likewise he gives 18d. of new farm for two acres of Bolde.

“I have wrote it exactly after the original, where nova is written nouua with a line above it: from whence it is easy to

\* This seems to be the date at which this part of Cole's MS. was written. The Cambridge Commencement Tuesday is now always in June.

see what mistakes one is liable to copy in this MS. I put so many instances down to shew the uncertain measure of a Bovat."

The Bovate of Diniel. Damete Diniel, Adam her son, hold half a bovate, namely, 26 acres, and pay yearly 14d. And both of them give 7d. which are called Hothpennies, at the feast of S. Botolph. And they perform all customs like Nigel. Likewise Adam gives, of new farm, 6d. for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land of Walter Buliston, and 6d. for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land of the wife of Geoffrey Fenclere. And 4d. for  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land of Peter Lond' in the marsh, etc. Likewise Damet holds 3 acres of Jordan Knight (*militis*) in the marsh, 6 acres.

Alcoe Diniel, Henry his brother, and Agnes their mother, hold half a bovate, namely, 30 acres, paying 14d. yearly. And each of them gives 7d. which are called Herthpenies, etc., of the land of Nigel Ailward, etc., and of the land of Gregory Prat, etc.

The Bovate of Baldwin. Alan, son of Katerine, and William his brother, hold the fifth part of one bovate, namely, 15 acres, 6 perches, 9 feet, paying 6d. yearly, and each of them gives 7d., etc.

Margaret, wife of Thomas, son of Levine, holds the fourth part of one bovate, namely,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  acres, etc.

William Ydoine, Roger his brother, and Alexander, their brother, hold the fifth part of one bovate, namely,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  acres, etc.

"Here the 5th part of a Bovate is called 12 acres and one half; exactly the same quantity of land in the preceding Article is called the 4th part of a Bovate. Can anything be more vague and uncertain? They both pay 6d. per an."

John, son of Gilbert le Dikgreive, and Alexander, his brother, hold the fifth part of one bovate, namely, 16 acres, etc.

Richard Baldewin, and William, his brother, and William, their brother, and Emma, their mother, hold the tenth part of one bovate, namely, 10 acres, paying 3d. yearly, etc.

Hugh Baldewin, Peter, his brother, and Damete, their mother, hold the tenth part of one bovate, namely, 10 acres, etc.

W. E. F.

**959.—March Chapel Indulgence.**—Cole's MSS. of Cambridgeshire Church Notes contain some account of the Church, or rather Chapel, at March (for the mother-church is at Doddington), and copies of the inscriptions extant in his time. These inscriptions we may be able to give hereafter: we now give the Indulgence issued in 1343 to those who attended the Chapel, together with Cole's preliminary remarks.

“The Chapel is dedicated to S<sup>t</sup>. Wendreda, & was built, as I suppose, ab<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. year 1343; for I was favoured when at March w<sup>th</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. sight of a Copy taken from y<sup>e</sup>. Original, now in y<sup>e</sup>. said Parish, of a Grant of Indulgences to those who sh<sup>d</sup>. frequent this Chapel, w<sup>th</sup>. many other affairs relating to y<sup>e</sup>. same, dated at Avignon, August 14. 1343. y<sup>e</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup>. year of y<sup>e</sup>. Pontificate of Pope Clement y<sup>e</sup>. 6<sup>th</sup>. & during y<sup>e</sup>. time of Symon Montacute B<sup>p</sup>. of Ely. M<sup>r</sup>. Shepheard, whose Son copied it fr[om] y<sup>e</sup>. Original, let me take it w<sup>th</sup>. me, & was further so obliging as to assist me in taking several of y<sup>e</sup>. Inscriptions in y<sup>e</sup>. Church yard: this is y<sup>e</sup>. Grant:”

Extractum verum, ex Architypo, Permissionis Ecclesiæ de March.

Universis sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ Filiis, ad quos præsentis Literæ pervenerint, Nos Miseracoe divina, Nales Manusgardensis, Johannes Edelliensis, Archiepiscopi, Bernardus Sanensis, Raphel Netrensis, Odinus Siensis, Petrus Dragonaviensis, Marinus Stragnensis, Vincentius Patensis, Manfredus Aiacensis, Arimacius Xanchie(nsis), Petrus Galensis, Episcopi, Salutem in Domino sempiternam.

Splendor Paternæ Gloriæ, qui sua Mundum ineffabili Claritate illuminat, pia vota Fidelium de clementissima Majestate sua sperantium, tunc præcipue benigne Favore prosequitur, cum devota ipsorum Humilitas Sanctorum Meritis et Precibus adjuvatur. Cupientes itaque quod Capella Sanctæ Windrede Virginis de March, Eliensis Diocesis, congruis Honoribus frequentetur, et a Christi Fidelibus jugiter veneretur, omnibus fere penitentibus et confessis, qui ad dictam Capellam in singulis Sanctæ Windrede Festivitatibus, necnon Natalis Domini, Circumcisionis, Epiphaniæ, Paschæ, Pentecostis, Corporis Christi, Inventionis Sanctæ Crucis, Michælis Archi-Angeli, et in singulis Festis Beatæ Mariæ Virginis, Natalis Sancti Johannis

Baptistæ, Beatorum Petri et Pauli Apostolorum, et omnium aliorum Apostolorum et Evangelistorum, in Festo Omnium Sanctorum, et in Commemoratione omnium Animarum, singulis Diebus Dominicis, causa Devotionis, Orationis aut Peregrinationis accesserint. Necnon qui ad Fabricam, Luminaria, Ornamenta dictæ Capellæ manus porrexerint adjunctrices; aut qui in eorum Testamenta, vel extra, Aurum, Argentum, Vestimenta, Libros, Calices, aut quævis alia dictæ Capellæ Necessaria donaverint, legaverint, aut donari vel legari procuraverint; Quique Missis, Precationibus Matutinis, Vesperis, aut aliis Divinis Officiis Domini Walteri Hunne de Wivelingham, Presbyteri, interfuerint, aut aliquod Sacramentum Ecclesiasticum, seu Calicis Benedictionem ab eodem susceperint, vel qui ei Necessaria, dum Missas celebraverit, ministraverint, aut aliquas Oblationes sibi obtulerint, aut qui in illorum Testamentis, vel extra, Aurum, Argentum, Vestimenta, Libros, Calices, aut quævis alia ei necessaria, donaverint, legaverint, aut donari vel legari procuraverint; Et qui pro salubri Statu venerabilis Patris Simonis de Montacuto, Eliensis Episcopi, et Fratris Hugonis de Over, Ordinis Sancti Augustini, Galfredi Liste, Vicarii de Sutton in Insula, Wilhelmi Houden, et Juliane Houden, et Filiorum eorum, Letitiæ Syward de Wivelingham, et Margarete Filie ejus, et pro omnibus Parochianis Parochiæ de March, dum vixerint, et pro Animabus eorum qui ab hac Luce migraverint, et pro Animabus Johannis Hunne de Wivelingham, et Agnetis ejus Uxoris, Patrisque Matris predicti Domini Walteri, Nicolai de Wode-Weston, et Godlani de March, Presbyterorum, Radulphi Beveriche, Radulphi Godfrey, et Margarete Beveriche, eorumque Parentum, Amicorum, et omnium Fidelium defunctorum, Orationem Dominicam, cum Salutatione Angelica, Officium Mortuorum, septem Psalmos Penitentiales, cum Letaniis, Psalterium, aut aliquas alias devotas Orationes, pia mente, dixerint, Missas celebraverint, aut celebrari fecerint; Seu qui Letaniis predictorum exorando circuerint, et qui pro Parentum Impetratore et pro suis Parentibus et Amicis, et pro omnibus prædictæ Capellæ Benefactoribus vivis et mortuis, pie Deum exoraverint: Quotiescunque, quandocunque, et ubicunque, præmissas, aut aliquod Premissorum devote fecerint: De Omnipotentis Dei Misericordia, & Beatorum Petri et Pauli Apostolorum ejus Authoritate confisi singuli nostrum, xi<sup>clm</sup>. Dies Indulgentiarum de Injunctis eis penitentibus, misericorditer in Domino Relaxamus, dummodo Diocessani Voluntas ad id accesserit, & Consensus.

In Cujus Rei Testimonium Sigilla nostra præsentibus Literis apposuimus.

Datum Avinioni 14<sup>o</sup>. die Mensis Augusti Anno Domini 1343 & Pontificatus Domini Clementis Papæ Sexti, Anno secundo.

It would seem that not one of the Bishops named in the preamble belonged to any of the British sees. The indulgence is granted to all who come to the Chapel of March for the sake of devotion, prayer, or pilgrimage, on any Sunday or Festival day, special mention being made of the Feast of S. Windreda; also to those that contribute to the expenses of the fabric, lights, or ornaments; also to those who bequeath, or cause to be bequeathed, gold, silver, vestments, books, chalices, or any other thing necessary for Divine Service; also to those who are present at or take part in the masses and other divine offices of Walter Hunne, of Wivelingham, priest, or who con-

tribute in any way to the support of the services connected (as it seems) with his memory; also to all who pray for the good estate of several persons named, including Simon Montacute, Bishop of Ely, Brother Hugh de Over, of the Augustinian Order, and Geoffrey Liste, Vicar of Sutton in the Isle, and for all parishioners when living and for their souls when dead, many being mentioned by name. The concession consists of an indulgence of eleven days of penances enjoined, provided that the consent of the Diocesan is obtained. ED.

**960.—Aldreth Bridge (893).**—The re-building of the bridge at Aldreth which was in contemplation at the beginning of last year, as mentioned in the article named above, is now being carried out. An interesting account of the discoveries during the work was given at the meeting of the British Archæological Association on 4 June. We quote the notice of the meeting, as far as its proceedings relate to Aldreth, given in the *Athenæum* of 14 June:—

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—*June 4.*—Dr. W. de Gray Birch, Hon. Treasurer, in the chair.—The Rev. C. H. Evelyn-White, exhibited antiquities, and said that the ancient Aldreth bridge that formerly spanned the old West River, connecting Cambridgeshire with the Isle of Ely, is being rebuilt after a period of long decay which led to ultimate extinction. The excavations have brought to light the piles upon which the original bridge was probably built, with ponderous pieces of undressed timber and two immense oak beams upon which the structure was mainly carried. The much-corroded blade of a short iron sword (certainly not later than Norman date), an adze, and other like implements have been found 4 or 5 ft. below the surface of the river bank by the site of the bridge. Mr. Evelyn-White exhibited oxidized portions of a dagger, with part of the wood handle adhering; what appears to be an awl or "pricker" encased in iron (which may belong to the Anglo-Saxon period); and two horseshoes (Norman), one fancifully scalloped, the shoes being considerably narrower on the one side than on the other. Fragments of ironwork used in the construction of an early bridge were also shown. Of the animal remains that have been found, Mr. Evelyn-White exhibited some remarkably fine specimens, including the tusk of a boar, and teeth, possibly of some extinct species, so blackened by contact with the fen peat as to resemble jet. Some examples of extinct freshwater shells, which were found in abundance, were also shown, together with some interesting fragments of Romano-British and later pottery. The Aldreth bridge is famed in history by Hereward's resistance to the Conqueror and by the passage of King Stephen, who resisted the Bishop of Ely when he espoused the cause of Matilda.

W. J. L.

961.—Wheat and Flour Prices.—I send two papers which shew the value of flour, &c., in 1812, and of wheat in 1851. The latter is an extract from the Spalding Market Book of Mr. C. Roberts, Merchant, sometime of Bourne, afterwards of Peterborough. Mr. Roberts once shewed these figures to a London dealer, who said, “You see they could farm at those prices.” “Yes,” was the reply, “I do see they did; but it killed them.” Both lots were bought of executors.

S.E.

(I).

Michael Jealous.

Houghton Mill, 10 Mo. 21<sup>st</sup>, 1812.

Bought of William Brown.

Sks.				£.	s.	d.
4	4 Sacks fine Flour	at 98/-	...	19	12	—
	Sacks Seconds	at	...			
2	2 Sacks Thirds	at 92/-	...	9	4	—
	Sacks Fourths	at	...			
	Sacks Barley Flour	at	...			
1	1 Containing 15 Stones Barley Meal	at 2/6		1	17	6
3	3 ——— 1 qrs. Hogmeat	at —		1	16	—
3	3 ——— 1 qrs. Pollard	at —			18	—
3	3 ——— 1 qrs. Bran	at —			16	—
Sks.	16			£.	34	3 6

The Sacks to be paid for in one Month, unless a receipt of their return can be produced when called for.

(Lovell, Printer, Huntingdon.)

(II).

Tho<sup>s</sup> Lake's Exors

Purchased.

March 3/51

				£	s.	d.
28 $\frac{1}{2}$	Qr Wheat	16 . 0	at 25 <sup>s</sup> ...	...	35	12 6
37 $\frac{1}{2}$	Qr Do	15 . 0	20 <sup>s</sup> ...	...	37	10 0
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	Qr Do Tails	15 . 3	16 <sup>s</sup> ...	...	10	16 0
				<hr/>		
	79 $\frac{1}{2}$	Qrs		83	18	6

John Mossop's Exors

March 3/51

396 Qr Wheat 16 . 3 at 25/6  
Ch<sup>s</sup> Roberts

**962.—Essex's Notes on Wisbech.**—These notes are very few, and are worth printing only for the sake of giving the opportunity of seeing if all is the same as in the time at which these notes were taken. James Essex was an architect, and F.S.A.: he died in 1784. His collections are in the British Museum; and the following is to be found in Add. MSS. 6768, p. 249. The stops have been added: there are none in the original.

The Porch of a Publick house, of the sign of the Nagg's head, is built with brick: it projects from the front of the House, & is vaulted with ribs, at the intersections of which are Escutcheons, on which are the letters TG. The arch in front is Gothic, low pitched; above it is a window of 4 lights; the letters TG may be Tho<sup>s</sup> Goodrich, Bishop from 1534 to 1554.

The Church has 4 Ailes: in the Division between ye North Ailes there are 5 arches, supported by Cilendric pillars and other pillars with 4 small pillars, 2<sup>d</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> are of this forme;\* the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 4 are cilendric.

The Arches are about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  Diam<sup>r</sup> in height; one arch is ornamented in this manner.†

There was a tower at the W<sup>t</sup> end: the pillars on ye N & S remin (*sic*) which sup<sup>ted</sup> ye Arches of the Tower: and ye Chancel was ye same, as ap<sup>rs</sup> at ye S Ang<sup>le</sup>. There are 4 Arches and 3 small pillars in the middle, and 5 Arches or 4 Group<sup>d</sup> pillars to ye S ailes. The Chancel has a S Aile and 4 Arches beyond, which is a Chapel; on the Corbil table without which are Escutch<sup>ns</sup> with rebuses of various sorts.

The Tower is a handsom build<sup>s</sup> stand<sup>s</sup> at the NW Corner. The upper Story is ornamental on all sides with Escutcheons, &c.; in one ye Arms of England and France, another the instruments of the Crucifixion, another the Arms of Bishop Morton, and another which I take for Bis<sup>p</sup> Goodrich's. Above are ye letters T and M [crowned] with the Arms of the Town, Cross Keys, and on anoth[er] the sacramental Cup, &c.

*Wisbeach Steeple.* From a Letter to Mr. Dalton of Cath Hall from D<sup>r</sup> Burrough:—

On the North side in front, the King's Arms, supported by a Griffin and Greyhound, on the sides of which the letters T.B in old Saxon Letters; they look like T.M., but my neighbour Mr. Clarke says they are a T and a B. Beneath two escutcheons, on the right hand, Canterbury, on the left, Goodrich; above them are I.H.S. in Saxon Characters. ED.

**963.—Arrest of a Ship at Lynn.**—Among the Patent Rolls for 18 Edw. III. (1344) is a commission directed to Robert de Morle, John de la Rokele, and Thomas de Drayton, to make inquisition and certify the king of the whole truth in regard to the arrest and detention in the port of Lynn of a ship of Ralph de Briggebrok, called *Petite Farecrost*. From the Calendar published this year it appears that the king had

\* A sketch gives a section of a circular pier, with small semi-cylindrical shafts attached.

† Sketch shews zig-zag.



commanded the steward and bailiffs of the tolbooth of Lynn to report on the subject, and they returned that on Saturday in Easter week last the ship put into their port because the wind was contrary, and that because of an outcry of some men of the town against the master and mariners, these last were examined, and they acknowledged that the ship with the master and mariners and merchandise, 20 quarters of salt, put in at Aberdeen in Scotland, "which is of the king's enmity," by reason of a storm and the breaking of the gear, and there the salt was exposed for sale against their will. Not being satisfied with this acknowledgment, the steward and bailiffs arrested the ship and the master and mariners, and detained them; and the men so detained are petitioning the king for deliverance.

There is no subsequent entry in the Calendar to shew what was the result.

H. R. S.

**964.—Letting the Poor.**—The following advertisement from *The Stamford Mercury* sounds oddly to our ears: but it is only an example of what was not at all unusual in the eighteenth century, and perhaps later.

THE POOR of CROWLAND, in the County of Lincoln, to be LET, on the First of May next.—Any Person who wish (*sic*) to treat for the same, are desired to apply to the CHURCHWARDEN or OVERSEER of the said Parish of CROWLAND. N.B. None but married Persons need apply.

CROWLAND, 12th April, 1793.

R. M. G.

**965.—Siege of Lynn, 1643.**—A short account of the surrender of King's Lynn to the forces of the Parliament is given by the chronicler of the party, John Vicars, in his *Jehovah-Jireh*, 1644; a work from which we have previously given particulars of the fighting at Crowland. It is to be found in the second part of the *Parliamentary Chronicle*, p. 412.

Shortly after also, namely, about the 14th of *Septemb.* 1643, came certain intelligence to *London*, that the brave and strong Town of *Lyn-Regis*, in the County of *Norfolk*, which had been besieged for about the space of a moneth, by the Noble and as vertuous as valiant Earl of *Manchester*; and having been surrounded both by sea and by land, and much infested by our Ordnance from *Old-Lyn*, and utterly hopeless of reliefe by that impious Popish Earl of *New-Castle*, and thus at last brought

into much danger and distresse every way, and fearing now at last a terrible storming of the Town (which indeed was firmly resolved on, if not prevented by timely submission to this Noble *Generall*) and thereby to have their houses beaten downe about their eares, and the lives of themselves, their wives and children, brought into inevitable danger of destruction; They therefore resolved to surrender the Town and themselves into the most Noble *Generalls* hands, upon fair quarter and satisfactory conditions on both sides.

After desiring his readers to note that this success might be considered a compensation for the recent defeats at Bristol and Exeter, the chronicler proceeds:—

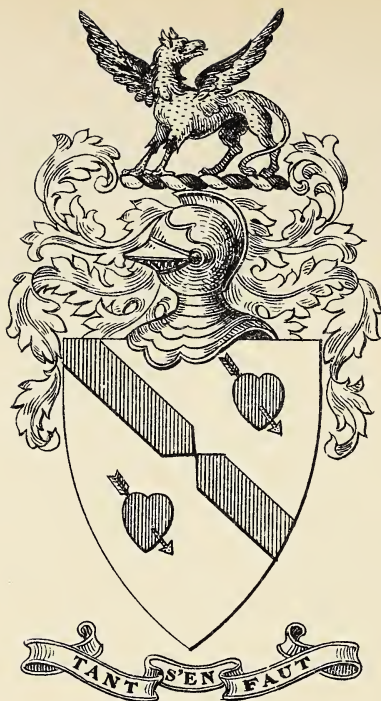
See I say, how the Lord hath already in a great measure revived our spirits and requited our late losses in the so easie winning of that strong castle of *Ecclesal*, and this happie surrender of the most strong Town of *Lyn-Regis*; for as the Parliament lost two or three Townes of consequence in the Western parts of the Kingdome; so by Gods might and good providence it hath both preserved another, there, even renowned *Glocester*, and yet another in the Eastern parts of as great importance (as affaires at that time stood in the Kingdom) as any of those lost, even, I say this Town of *Lyn*. It being a most impregnable place by naturall situation, and a Maritime or Sea-Towne, which having in it a most brave Shipharbour and had in it at the time twas taken 50. pieces of Ordnance, 20. barrels of powder, and store of Ammunition, and was at that time a mighty and onely interruption (as I formerly touched) of the Noble Earl of *Manchesters* opposing of *New-castles Popish-army* in those Northern parts, which now by Gods great mercie and goodnesse he hath a very brave and considerable Armie to atcheive in Gods due time.

The marginal notes accompanying the above are these:—  
 “*Lyn-Regis* in the Countie of Norfolk besieged.” “*Lyn* surrendered to the Earl of Manchester.” “Gods fatherly affection, and tender dealing with his children.” “Gods gracious repayings of our late losses.” “The great benefit and advantage the Parliament got by the surrender of *Lyn-Regis*.”

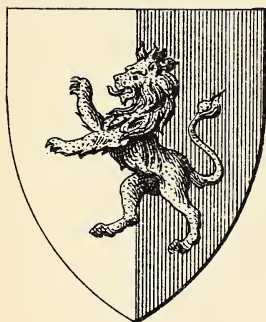
ED.

966.—**Woad** (942).—In the short notice of Dr. Plowright’s paper on Woad reprinted in the last part of *Fenland Notes and Queries*, from *The Athenæum*, a mere outline was given of the interesting and valuable account the paper contained of the history of the plant and its cultivation. Several notes on the subject have appeared in our pages; and most of our readers will be glad to hear more about it. If the paper itself is not to be printed among the Transactions of the British Archæological Association, would Dr. Plowright allow it to be published in this Magazine? G. TALBOT,

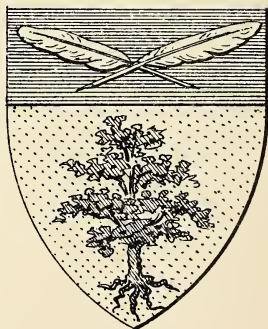




ISAAC WANTY  
OF THORNEY.



JEAN WANTIER  
OF LILLE.



ESTIENNE WANTÉ  
OF GRAVELINES.

**967.—Wanty Family of Thorney (925).**—In our last number we gave a short notice of Mr. Peet's privately printed *Memorials of the Huguenot Family of de Vantier*. By the kindness of the author we are now enabled to give a page of the armorial bearings of some branches of the family. The different coats are so completely unlike, that in England we should feel inclined to question the fact that the families could have descended from one stock: but very possibly the rules of foreign heraldry are not the same as ours.

In tracing the careers of the members of one of the Huguenot families, Mr. Peet is naturally obliged to give some account of the reasons for leaving their native land; and, accordingly, much of what he relates applies equally to members of others who for the same reasons felt compelled to emigrate to England in the 16th and 17th centuries. To those who live near the centres where these foreigners settled, and who are acquainted with some of the descendants of the original settlers, these details are of the greatest interest.

The French Church at Thorney was established in 1652. This was 33 years before the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, which caused a far greater number of the Huguenots to seek the hospitality of our shores, so that the first settlers at Thorney were driven to England in consequence of the persecution at the latter end of the 16th century.

We quote some passages describing the causes of the original coming.

There were two great immigrations of Huguenots from Flanders and France. The first commenced a few years immediately anterior to the Massacre on St. Bartholomew's Day (1572), and continued for many years, with varying flow, as the Persecution waxed and waned. It consisted partly of French and partly of Flemish Protestants—these latter were French-speaking Flemings or Walloons. The second, and numerically the greater immigration, occurred at the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, and consisted almost entirely of French Huguenots. They found an asylum in this country, and settled in various places.

The French congregation at Thorney does not appear to have received any accession of members at this period. In the five years next after the Revocation not a single baptism appears in any family which was not settled at Thorney before that event.

The history of the Refugees in their settlements in England is intensely interesting, but the literature on the subject is at present confined to very narrow limits. The splendid work now being accomplished by the Huguenot Society of London in printing the Registers of the French Churches and other important documents long pigeon-holed at the Record Office, or buried amongst State Papers, will add materially to the sources of knowledge available for the student and genealogist. Holland and England constituted the principal asylum of the exiled Huguenots, especially those resident in the Northern Provinces of France. Holland in the first instance, and England in the next—many of the Refugees passing through one country on their way to the other. In Holland they naturally became adepts in the art of Embanking and Drainage, and as is well known, a certain section, when they came to England, rallied to the call of Vermuyden—the Dutch Engineer—in the great Drainage works he undertook in the Fens of Lincolnshire and the adjacent counties. The successful reclamation of the drowned lands was to a great extent due to the skilled labour and patient industry of the French and Walloon Colony, which for the greater part of a century made Thorney its home. In the course of time, not a few of the refugee community, cut off from their native land, married with their English neighbours, although at first the practice was discouraged. The names of these foreign strangers—anglicised and corrupted often past recognition—abound in every village and hamlet throughout the district, but the tongue of La Belle France has long since ceased to be heard in the Fens.

The old home of the de Vantiers is Le Pays de l'Alleud. This was situated in France, quite close to Belgium.

It was on the line of towns and villages between Armentières and Valenciennes, situated within a few miles of the present frontier of France and Belgium, and mostly within the province of French Flanders, then forming a part of the Spanish Netherlands, that the storm of persecution first fell.

It had the reputation of being one of the richest districts in Europe, renowned for its industry and thriving manufacture of linen and wool. The earliest members of the family who left the fatherland were Jaques Wantier, who in 1567 was sentenced to banishment in consequence of his religious zeal and active opposition to the cruelties of the Spaniards, and Jean Wantier and another Jaques, his brother, who were also sentenced to banishment in 1568. "The same sentence was passed upon Anna Wantier, the wife of Renault le Roy, for breaking images in various churches."

Maidstone and Canterbury were among the first places in England colonised by the Refugees. Numerous instances occur in the Registers of the French Church at Canterbury of baptisms and marriages of Wantiers between 1586 and 1628. As is well known, the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral was

made over to the French settlers as a weaving factory ; and the south aisle of the crypt was appropriated to their use as a place of worship : and to this day, Divine Service is still conducted there in the French language, although there is now no French-speaking community in the city.\* Offices in the French Church were held by different members of the family. But after 1644 all such entries in the Registers and other books cease ; so there was “evidently a dispersal of the family about this period.”

By degrees some Wantiers seemed to have returned to Flanders. Descendants of the first exiles are found living at the old home at La Gorgue, but, as we might expect from the confiscation of their property, in much reduced circumstances. And once more, in the middle of the 17th century, persecution raged again, and the family, who now were always named de Vantier, were obliged to escape. “A few joined their relatives in England” ; but most, in 1661, went to the Palatinate, where they stayed till driven away by the French in 1698, when they made their way to Denmark.

Some details which Mr. Peet has collected of this later emigration confirm the fact that the ancestral home of the family was at La Gorgue. Members can be clearly traced through the Palatinate to many places in Denmark and Germany, “where many of their descendants are now living.”

It is to be noted that the colony of Huguenots at Thorney did not come to that place direct from abroad. They had first tried to establish themselves at the work at Hatfield Chase, in Yorkshire : but their presence there was resented, and they were “molested by the peasantry.” They accordingly made overtures to the Earl of Bedford to rent land on his Thorney estate, which they would drain and cultivate. With them there came some new arrivals from Flanders, as well as others who had already been living in Canterbury, London, and elsewhere in England. Mr. Peet divides the Thorney settlers into

\* Canterbury Cathedral, in Bell's Series, p. 100.

three classes: (I) the trained drainers, who received wages for their work; (II) the agriculturists, eager to avail themselves of the low rental at Thorney; (III) the capitalists, who in some instances purchased land, and sometimes joined the body of the Adventurers. The Wantys, and the Bailleuls (Bayleys) belonged to this last class. Among the purchasers of land were members of the families of Ris, La Pla, Le Cont, Prevost, Elgar, and Melville.

We hope to return to the subject on a future occasion.

**968.—Attractions of the Fenland.**—A leading article in *The Standard* of 7 Nov., 1902, in commending Mr. Harper's new work, on "The Cambridge, Ely, and King's Lynn Road," contains some appreciation of a district which is popularly supposed to have very little to recommend it. After leaving Cambridge, the road described follows the river Cam and

enters the fenland—a great plain of black peaty soil, intersected with ditches, fringed with willows, and dotted with pumping stations, once a waste of water in Winter time and a haunt of wildfowl. Looked at from some church tower, and best of all from that of Ely Cathedral, it is not without a fascination of its own. Most of all is it beautiful when the ripening corn is "like a golden ocean Becalmed upon the plain." As for the Cathedral, we may only say that one view of it—that from the river—is surpassed by no similar building in England, while it is full of architectural interest and beauty within and without, and its lantern is unique. But even the Fenland has its memories and interests, on which Mr. Harper discourses pleasantly, as he takes us to Ely by lonely Upware, and from it by Littleport, noted among skaters; by Denver, with its sluice, and Downham Market, with its old-fashioned inn, till we reach King's Lynn, where we may linger by its town gate, fine old houses, and picturesque nooks. The coaching roads which this volume describes were almost deserted after the railroads had come, but the cyclist has found them out again, and he will soon be followed by the motor-car.

**969.—Poisonous Plants in the Fens.**—W. H. W. refers us to an interesting article in *Longman's Magazine* for November last on "Our Poisonous Plants," in which is a curious anecdote about the Lincolnshire Fens. The writer of the article says that—

The juice of even the beautiful yellow buttercup of our May meadows is sufficiently acrid to blister the hands, and the knowledge of this fact has frequently been made use of by cunning beggars, who, as old Gerarde tells us, "do stampe the leaves, and lay it unto their legs and arms, which causeth much filthy ulcers as we daily see among such wicked vagabonds



to move the people the more to pittie." He continues in his quaintest manner:—"This calleth to my remembrance an history of a certain gentleman dwelling in Lincolnshire, called Mahewe, the true report hereof my good friend Mr. Nicholas Belson, sometimes Fellow of King's College in Cambridge, hath delivered unto me: Mr. Mahewe, dwelling in Boston, a student in physick, having occasion to ride through the fens of Lincolnshire, found a root that the boys had turned up, which seemed unto him very strange and unknown, for that it was in spring before the leaves were out, this he tasted, and it so inflamed his mouth, tongue, and lips, that it caused them to swell very extremely, so that before he could get to the towne of Boston he could not speak, and no doubt had lost his life, if that the Lord God had not blessed those good remedies which presently he procured and used."

**970.—Tron at Lynn.**—Some proceedings with respect to the making of a tron at Lynn are recorded among the archives of the City of London, and an account of them is given in the Calendar of Letter-Book B. On 18 April, 1298, a writ from King Edward I. was sent to the Chamberlains of the City, reciting that orders had been given for the making of a tron for weighing wool "in our town of Len," and that this tron was to be examined and proved at the Guildhall of London, and then sent to the Exchequer. The writ further directed that the tron, examined according to these directions, was to be duly produced at the Exchequer by the Saturday after Easter next following.

William de Betoynes, to whom the writ was addressed, could not do anything before the coming of Henry le Galeys, the Mayor. So, before long, another writ, to the Mayor and Chamberlains, directed them to bring the tron by the first of May. Then the Mayor summoned six woolmen, with Alderman Martin Box at their head, and one "ancer-maker" (most likely a maker of little balances), and these men were "sworn to weigh at the tron of Lenne for weighing wool in that vill; which tron contains four weys (*pisas*) and fourteen cloves (*clavos*). And it was marked with the City's mark." This tron was accordingly taken on the Wednesday following to the Exchequer by the Mayor and citizens, "which tron was admitted by the citizens aforesaid, and delivered to the men of Lenne."

Ed.

971.—**The Liberty of Peterborough** (954). — *The Liberty of the Isle of Ely. Prisons. Demise of the Crown. The Calendar.*—County franchises are not to be confused with “palatine jurisdictions,” *ubi breve regis non currit*, and where, before 27 Henry VIII., the lord of the franchise issued writs in his own name, commissioned justices, and might have pardoned a felon. The Duchy of Lancaster formerly enjoyed those royal powers within the compass of the Duchy, and the Chancery Court of the Duchy still exercises full jurisdiction of a court of equity. The palatine jurisdiction of Durham, enjoyed by the Bishop, was transferred to the Crown by 6 and 7 Will. IV., c. 19, together with all forfeitures of lands and goods for treason and felony, all mines of gold and silver, treasure trove, deodands, escheats, fines, and amerciaments. The Bishop of Ely exercised *jura regalia* throughout the Isle till 1836, nominating a Chief Justice,\* but that judge’s authority to sit in judgment on the King’s subjects was derived from his appointment as a justice of peace in the commission for the Isle, which was merely a county franchise, though described as a county palatine in the statutes of the realm. The King’s writs have always been directed to the sheriff of Cambridgeshire, and he sent them on for execution to the bailiff of the liberty of the Isle. Such is the position of the Liberty of Peterborough, with a commission to justices appointed by the Crown to deliver the Liberty gaol, from time to time as occasion requires, or the Lord of the Liberty shall think fit: very different from the commission issued to the King’s justices to deliver the county gaol of all prisoners in the custody of the Sheriff. That Commission is of force only for the delivery specified, and for which the

\* 6 and 7 Will. IV., c. 87. See Art. 636 for an account of the trial of the Insurgents of 1816 before a Special Commission. Mr. E. Christian was then Chief Justice of the Isle. Of 82 prisoners, 24 were arraigned and found guilty; only five were executed. The others were discharged by proclamation. The Bishops’ franchise of gaol delivery was based on prescription. They used to appoint justices for the Isle under their own seal, but it was usual to send the Steward to the King’s Justices in Eyre at Cambridge for a duplicate of the King’s Commission, and the Isle justices proceeded according to its tenor. Pat. 18 Edw. III. In 1515 the King issued his commission for the delivery of the Isle gaol, and the Crown has always done so since the Act of 27 Hy. VIII.

judges are appointed. But the Liberty justices remain in commission so long as they are qualified to act as justices of peace.\* Even the demise of the Crown does not now end the commission; for by 1 Edw. VII. c. 5, the holding of any office under the Crown shall not be affected, nor shall any fresh appointment thereto be rendered necessary, by the demise of the Crown: but when any new justices are appointed a fresh commission will be issued.†

In 1487, an Act, 3 Henry VII. c. 3, provided that the Sheriff or Lord of the Liberty should certify the names of every prisoner in his keeping at the next general gaol delivery, "there to be Kalendred before the justices of the deliverance of the same gaol." This duty was, by the Prison Act, 1865, transferred to the gaoler, and‡ must now be performed by the officer whose office embraces the function of gaoler, in cases where there happens to be no gaol, by reason of the operation

\* Thus there are two commissions of gaol delivery current at the same time in the County of Northampton. Pursuant to the Local Government Act, 1888, sec. 46, the Soke of Peterborough is a separate Administrative County for the purposes of that Act. So is the Isle of Ely. County Coroners are now appointed by the County Councils, to whom the writ *de coronatore eligendo* is directed when a vacancy occurs; but this does not extend to Liberties, so the Lord of the Liberty will still appoint the Liberty Coroner. (Tower of London Case, 1892. I.Q.B. 33.) The Custos Rotulorum is appointed by the Crown: the patent of Charles William, Earl Fitzwilliam, is dated Sept. 7, 1837. (Pat. 1. Vict., Pt. 4, 11.) Records are in the custody of the Custos Rotulorum or of the Clerk of the Peace. In Counties the Clerk of the Peace, who is appointed by the Standing Joint Committee of the County Justices and the County Councillors, is responsible, subject to the direction of the Custos Rotulorum, for the records and documents of the County; and the County Council can provide a place for the convenient keeping of such records: but this does not extend to the Liberty records. In the report of the Local Records Commission, 1902, there is a full return from the Clerk of Peace of the County of Northampton. The Quarter Session records are complete from 1685. The earliest documents date in Queen Elizabeth's reign. There is no return from the Soke of Peterborough, and the response to the eight inquiries of the Commission by the Clerk of Peace is, "I cannot suggest anything."

† Shakspeare runs through the formalities of courts of law, and his characters know all about the quaint pleadings of civil actions. His fairies mock the proclamation which opens the commission with O yes, O yes, a corruption of the French Oyez. "Crier Hobgoblin, make the fairy oyes." (Merry Wives, v. 5.) Pistol was armed with the demise of the Crown, which deprived justices of the peace of authority till they were put in the new commission. Pistol makes his way to Justice Shallow's orchard, and part of the conversation is as follows:—

*Shal.* . . . . I am, Sir, under the King, in some authority.

*Pist.* Under which, Besonian? speak or die.

*Shal.* Under King Harry.

*Pist.* Harry the Fourth? or Fifth?

*Shal.* Harry the Fourth.

*Pist.* A foutre for thine office!

Sir John, thy tender lambkin now is king;

Harry the Fifth's the man.

From this subtle manner of weaving legal reference into his stories, it is clear that some trained lawyer was a collaborator with the poet. Was it Bacon?

‡ Sec. 62. The gaoler shall prepare for the Judges of Assize and justices in Quarter Sessions a calendar of all prisoners in custody for trial at such assizes or gaol sessions.

of the Prison Act, 1877, which abolished all powers exerciseable by the Lord of the Liberty in relation to prisons or prisoners, and vested them in the Home Secretary, who has power to appoint any convenient prison for the confinement of prisoners before trial.\* Those Acts have ended the distinction between houses of correction and prisons. Physically, all prisoners are within the walls of the gaol; yet for purposes of jurisdiction† the several cells of the prison are the common gaol of the county or house of correction, according to the offence and exigence of the committal of each prisoner.

A very pretty quarrel between the Sheriff and the Abbot, on a question of jurisdiction, will be described in the next paper. L.G.

**972.—Etymology of Gedney.**—In looking over some old numbers‡ of *Fenland Notes and Queries* I came across an enquiry as to the meaning of the place-name Gedney.

The enquiry was answered by a suggestion that Ged might be Gaed, a goad for driving oxen; or else that the first syllable might be a man's name, so that Gedney might mean Gaeda's island, or water.

It may be that Ged means a goad; but that is no more likely to give name to an island than a clothes prop.

\* By 18 Eliz. c. 3, A.D. 1576, Justices of Peace were to appoint abiding houses to be called houses of correction for punishment of rogues and employment of the poor. The first Poor Relief Act was enacted in 1597.

† Local jurisdiction depends on "venue" or the "visne" from which the jurors are empanelled. The venue is written in the margin of the indictment, and the prisoner charged is triable only for an offence committed within the area. The detention of prisoners from the Liberty in the County gaol till trial, does not affect the jurisdiction of the Liberty justices; such prisoners are not in the eye of the law subject to the authority of the Sheriff. The Prisons' Act, 1865, sec. 57, enacts that every prison wheresoever situate shall for all purposes be deemed to be within the limits of the place for which it is used as a prison. By the Capital Punishments' Act, 1868, judgment of death is to be carried into effect within the walls of the prison in which the offender is confined at the time of execution; so if any murderer is sentenced at the delivery of the Liberty gaol he will be hanged at Northampton, or wherever he has been imprisoned. Thus the Prisons' Acts enable the Liberty justices to avoid the inconvenience of a hanging at home. The Sheriff provides the executioner, and is charged with execution of judgment of death. Sheriff's Act, 1887, sec. 13. The death warrant was formerly by precept under hand and seal of the Judge directed to the Sheriff: now the practice is for the Judge to sign the calendar with the judgment in the margin, and this is left with the Sheriff as his warrant. Reprieves are at the King's pleasure, or by opinion of the Judge, or by necessity of law, *i.e.*, where a prisoner becomes insane. By the Judgment of Death Act, 1823, if the Judge deems the culprit a fit subject for royal mercy, he may, instead of pronouncing judgment, order the same to be entered on record.

‡Artt. 35, 67.

I suggest that the name comes from Ged, a Scandinavian word for a pike; and that the name means the Pike Island. This would be analagous to Ely, the island of eels. We have also Oxney, Horsey, Wolvesey, as similar instances.

In Sir Walter Scott's *Redgauntlet* the word Ged is discussed by the Quaker in connection with his own name, Geddes; and he maintains that his name is derived from Ged, a pike. Speaking of his family he says:—"So much were they famed for successful freebooting, robbery and bloodshed, that they are said to have been called Geddes, as likening them to the fish called a Jack, Pike, or Luce, and in our country tongue a Ged," and see note (\*) to c. 36 of *Rob Roy*.

Casthorpe, Grantham.

GEO. SILLS.

None of the suggestions made above is sufficient to explain the presence of the letter *n* in the name Gedney. Taylor's *Words and Places* does not help us. It certainly seems most probable that some personal or tribal name is the origin of the first syllable, though the only name given, as above, Gaeda, would again not account for the letter *n*. But perhaps it might be held that the name comes from the plural of Ged; if this were something like Gedden the etymology might be justified. Oxney may conceivably be the island of Oxen. ED.

**973.—A Bishop Mobbed.**—A short article in *Notes and Queries*, 4th S. xii. 526, says that in 1831—2

..... the animosity of the mob was being constantly excited against them [the bishops] by the more unscrupulous portion of the Radical press. It became unsafe for a bishop to appear in the streets of London, and I especially remember the outrageous manner in which the Bishop of Peterborough was insulted by the rabble on the occasion of his preaching one Sunday at St. Bride's church. I have not a newspaper file to refer to, but it must have been in 1831 or 1832.

Can any correspondent give more particulars of this occurrence? Was Bishop Marsh insulted by reason simply of his office, *qua* Bishop, or had he rendered himself personally unpopular? H.R.S.

**974.—March Church Notes.**—The former of the two extracts here given is from Essex's Church Notes in the British Museum. The reference is Add. MSS. 6768, p. 251. The notes were probably taken about 130 years ago.

The Church at March is very handsom has a neat spire and a more modern built Chancel handsomly fitted up with a fine Altar: the Roof of the Church is very handsom and as old as the building The Steeple is partly detachd from the Church by an open passage from north to south vaulted with Stone & moulded ribbs. The upper part of the Church is panneld with flint and letters of stone incerted.

The following is from Cole's manuscripts, Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 5804. The date of the actual visit to the church does not seem to be entered in the notes: but it would have been about the middle of the 18th century.

This is a most noble & beautiful Structure, w<sup>th</sup>. a grand Tower at y<sup>e</sup>. W. end on w<sup>ch</sup>. is a very high & fine Spire of Stone, w<sup>th</sup>. 5 Bells in them, a spatious Nave, 2 Side Isles & S. Porch as well as N. all leaded but y<sup>e</sup>. Chancel, w<sup>ch</sup>. to me seems, tho' old, to have been new added, not being of equal Grandeur w<sup>th</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. rest of y<sup>e</sup>. Building, is tiled. At y<sup>e</sup>. E. end of y<sup>e</sup>. N. is a sort of stone Turret for a Bell, very neat; & under y<sup>e</sup>. Battlements on both sides y<sup>e</sup>. Church is neat work in y<sup>e</sup>. free stone of Flint representing various figures, w<sup>th</sup>. some letters on y<sup>e</sup>. N. side, but being on a Journey and much pressed for time, coming there at 7 in y<sup>e</sup>. Evening & being there ag<sup>n</sup>, before 6 in y<sup>e</sup>. Morn: & there being a pretty deal of one thing or other in y<sup>e</sup>. Church to be transcribed, had not opportunity of time sufficient to examine them. Tho' this is so fine a Building it is only a Chapel to y<sup>e</sup>. Rectory of Doddington abt. 4 Miles fr(om) it w<sup>ch</sup>. is one of y<sup>e</sup>. richest Rectories in England, tho' y<sup>e</sup>. Church is not to be compared to this Chapel, her Daughter, being annually worth 1000 p<sup>d</sup>. & in these 3 or 4 y<sup>rs</sup>. past when y<sup>e</sup>. Fens have been dug, as I was informed by some of y<sup>e</sup>. Parishioners, it is near 15 or 16 hundred L<sup>bs</sup>. per Ann. The Rev: Mr. Snell is y<sup>e</sup>. Rector, but Mr. Windle is Curate of March for him. Doddington has 2 other Chapels depending on it, viz: Wimlington & Benwick. It is in y<sup>e</sup>. Gift of Sr. Thomas Peyton Baronet: & stands in y<sup>e</sup>. Dean<sup>ry</sup>. of Ely, & is exempt fr(om) y<sup>e</sup>. Archdeacons visitation, being under y<sup>e</sup>. Bp. of Ely's sole Jurisdiction.

The Altar stands on an Eminence of 3 Steps & is rail'd round being neatly paved within w<sup>th</sup>. free stone; y<sup>e</sup>. Altar, peice is handsomely painted & gilt & adorned abt. w<sup>th</sup>. Festoons of Fruits & Flowers, w<sup>th</sup>. Urns at y<sup>e</sup>. Top: & in front y<sup>e</sup>. 10 Commandm<sup>ts</sup>. Lords Prayer, & Credo. In y<sup>e</sup>. Chancel lie several Stones & Marbles: just at y<sup>e</sup>. foot of y<sup>e</sup>. Steps by y<sup>e</sup>. Middle on a small free-Stone in this Inscription:

Mary Marshall died Oct: y<sup>e</sup>. 9<sup>th</sup>. 1683. aged 17.

Above this lie 4 Stones by one another: y<sup>e</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup>. near y<sup>e</sup>. S. Door has this on it, being of a greyish kind of Marble:

Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of Edward Squire Gent: who departed this Life March y<sup>e</sup>. 21. 1693.

On y<sup>e</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup>. of y<sup>e</sup>. same sort & size being good large stones is this Inscription:

Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of Mary y<sup>e</sup>. Wife of Edward Squire, Gent: Daughter of William Knipe in y<sup>e</sup>. County of Norff. Gent: aged 36, who dyed 13 day of February 1687.

On y<sup>e</sup>. 3<sup>d</sup>. w<sup>ch</sup>. is a larger & whiter sort of Marble is this inscribed :

Here lieth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of Elizabeth, Relict of David Bell of Wisbech Gent: who died May 8. 1699.

On y<sup>e</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup>. near y<sup>e</sup>. N. Wall of black Marble is this Epitaph :

M . S  
Gulielmi King Norfolciensis  
Et apud Cantab : A. M : Qui  
Per quatuordecim Annos hujus  
Ecclesiæ magna cum industria  
Clericali Munere fideliter  
functus est : Obiit 21<sup>o</sup>. Decem :  
Anno {  $\overline{\text{Ætatis}}$  50  
          { Dom : 1719.

In y<sup>e</sup>. N. Wall just above this is an Hole, but for what use design'd is more y<sup>n</sup>. I can tell. On a good handsome free stone above y<sup>e</sup>. last under y<sup>e</sup>. N. Wall is this Inscription :—

Henry Williamson Esq<sup>r</sup> departed this Life May 15 1714 aged 52.—

Also George his Son departed this Life June 3d. 1714.  $\overline{\text{Ætat}}$  : 3.

By y<sup>e</sup>. S. Wall on a black marble Slab is this Inscription :

Hear lyeth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of Sarah y<sup>e</sup>. Wife of William Gent, Gentleman, & Daughter of John Walsham, Gentleman who departed this Life June 5. 1689.

Just as you enter y<sup>e</sup>. Chancel lies a very handsome black Marble Slab, & at top these arms, viz : a chevron guttee int. 3 Roses, & a Death's Head & Cross Bones for Crest. Under them is y<sup>e</sup>. following Inscription :

Committed to this Ground are y<sup>e</sup>. Bodies of

{	Lorah y <sup>e</sup> . Daughter	}	Who	Aug: 30.
	Valentine			1695.
	Maxmilian			Oct: 19.
	Lorah y <sup>e</sup> . Wife			1700.
	} y <sup>e</sup> . Son's		}	Aug: 30,
				1703.
				Sept. 5.
				1703.

of John Walsham Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Also

The Body of the said  
John Walsham Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
who died Jan: 9. 1742.  
aged 82.

There has been a Coat of Arms in each of y<sup>e</sup>. 2 Windows on either side, but are pilfer'd away, & y<sup>e</sup>. place fill'd w<sup>th</sup>. white Glass. The Nave and Chancel is separated by an elegant Screen under y<sup>e</sup>. large Arch; & over it in y<sup>e</sup>. Nave y<sup>e</sup>. Royal Arms finely carved, painted and gilt, & under y<sup>m</sup>. Semper eadem, betw<sup>n</sup>. two neat fluted Corinthian Pillars gilt, & abt. them, William Neal & William Hitch Churchwardens. In y<sup>e</sup>. S. side of y<sup>e</sup>. Arch is a Door up to y<sup>e</sup>. Rood-Loft. The Roof is y<sup>e</sup>. finest I ever saw, tho' plain as to painting or gilding; but beautifully adorned w<sup>th</sup>. a vast number of Angels half as big as life, each holding some or other Instrum<sup>t</sup>. of y<sup>e</sup>. Crucifixion: these are in several Rows y<sup>e</sup>. whole length of y<sup>e</sup>. Nave. Under y<sup>e</sup>. 2 first Arches of y<sup>e</sup>. Pillars on y<sup>e</sup>. S. is a very neat Gallery w<sup>th</sup>. Curtains. There are 4 Pillars on each side; y<sup>e</sup>. elegant Wainscote Pulpit stands ag<sup>st</sup>: y<sup>e</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup>. on y<sup>e</sup>. N. side, & y<sup>e</sup>. old stone Font of Octagon form on 2 Steps in a Pew, stands before y<sup>e</sup>. last in y<sup>e</sup>. S. side: on each side of it is carved a Jerusalem Cross. There is also an elegant Gallery ag<sup>st</sup>. the Belfry at y<sup>e</sup>. bottom of y<sup>e</sup>. middle Isle, w<sup>ch</sup>. is

supported by Iron Pillars: this is for y<sup>e</sup>. Singers. The whole Church is handsomely & regularly pewed à la moderne, w<sup>th</sup>. 2 Rows under y<sup>e</sup>. Pillars on either side, & a Row in y<sup>e</sup>. side Isles besides. On a small free stone under y<sup>e</sup>. Screen in y<sup>e</sup>. middle Isle is this wrote:

In Memory of Ralph Peirson Gent: who departed this Life February 13. An<sup>o</sup>. Ætat: 63. Dni: 1740.

A large grey marble w<sup>th</sup>. nothing on it lies at y<sup>e</sup>. Head of this a little above it; & at y<sup>e</sup>. h<sup>d</sup>. of that another large grey Marble lies w<sup>th</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. small Figures of a Man & his Wife in Brass on it & at their feet this Inscription:—

Orate p aiabs Willi Andrei Jordan & Johe Ux. sue qui qdm Willi<sup>s</sup> obiit vii<sup>o</sup>. die mesis Marcii A<sup>o</sup>. Dni, MCCCC primo quor aiabs ppicietur Deus Amen.

Mem: I am not quite satisfied whether I have not made a mistake: for 1501\* is in my Notes; but by my memory I think it ought to be as I have set it down. On another black marble Slab at y<sup>e</sup>. head of y<sup>e</sup>. last w<sup>ch</sup>. lies just before y<sup>e</sup>. Pulpit, is this:

Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of Alice y<sup>e</sup>. Wife of Michael Dickson, who departed this Life, November the 12. 1704. aged 60† yrs. Here also lyeth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of y<sup>e</sup>. said Michael Dixton who departed this Life November 3d. 1720 aged 80 yrs.

**975.—Sanctuary at Ely.**—In 1343 a certain clerk, named John de Wenlyngborough, took sanctuary at Ely. A petition in his behalf was made to the King, stating that he “for certain trespasses laid to his charge by his enemies, not involving loss of life or limb, has for a long time held himself in the cathedral church of Ely and dare not leave that church on account of the plots and threats of his said enemies,” and asking for relief. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Chichester “mainprised,” that is, became security for the clerk to appear before the King and Council when summoned; and order was accordingly made that Robert Flambard, the Serjeant at arms, should go to Ely and take him out “if he seeks this,” and deliver him into the custody of the Archbishop and Bishop “as such mainperners.”

These facts are given in the Calendar of Patent Rolls, 17 Edw. III., part I, 41, d., under date 28 Jan., 1343. There is no later entry to let us know what was the issue, or what were the trespasses laid to the charge of John de Wenlyngborough, or if he succeeded in clearing himself.

H.T.R.

\* The sketch on the opposite page gives the date Mcccc<sup>o</sup> primo.

† In margin, Quære.



**976.—Swan Marks in Lincolnshire.**—Among the manuscripts exhibited in the Museum of the Public Record Office is a roll thus described in the official catalogue:—

Case H.

75. Roll showing the distinctive marks upon the bills of swans belonging to various persons in parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire. [A.D. 1497—1504, with additions dated 1515]. Among the marks represented are those of “the gield of Corpus Cristi of Croyland,” “the abbot of Thorney,” “Stephanus Stangreve, monachus de Thorney,” “Dan Richard Holbech, monk of Thorney,” “Philippus, abbas de Croyland,” “the iij gyldys of Croyland,” “Carolus Stanefeld de Bolyngbroke,” “Sir Thomas Burgh,” “the bayly of Croft,” “the parson of Toft,” “W. Bedell tresourer unto my Ladie’s grace the kynges moder,” the parsons of Leek and Leverton, the vicars of Waynflete, Frekeney, and Sybsa, “the baylly of Tatyrsale,” “thabbot of Revysby,” and “Dan Thomas Therfyld, mongke of Ramssay.”

Thinking that an abstract of this interesting document might be welcome to our readers, I have examined it, and here give some account of it. It has been carefully mounted on a fresh membrane, but the upper part is torn, and many of the names are faded or otherwise illegible; and a few of the marks given have no names appended to them. Some few have the places also given; but the only places not in Lincolnshire are Thorney, Ramsey, Wisbech, and Lynn.

In nearly every instance the swan’s bill, painted red, is represented, with the edges, and a small piece of the head, including the eye, black. The bill is something over two inches long by about an inch and a quarter broad. I make out in all 180 marks. Omitting any notice of those in which the names are illegible, or worn out (among which are the first twelve in the roll), the following are fairly distinct.

John Stey . . . of Crowland. David Sayell. The Gield of Corpus cristi of Croyland. The abbot of Thorney. . . . . Croyland. Stephanus Stangroud\* Monachus de thorney. Dan Richard Holbech Monk of Thorney. Ph . . . ppust Abbas Croyland. Philip Johnson. Pattener . . . . Boston. Rychard Cesill. Elisebethe Howson. The iij Gyldys of Croyland. Robert Keling of Croyld. Harry Fey-

\* So I read it, not Stangreve, as in the catalogue. The “u” has a mark of contraction above it, so that the name is Stanground.

† Philip Everard was Abbot 1497—1504.

dege (?) Crowland. Henry Abbot of . . . . allden.\*  
 Johannes Stybard. Ric. Ogle. Robre' Baysboll. Wyllm  
 Broke. My ladie Elgud (?) of Stamford—Wellisthorpe.  
 Johne Benett of Crowland (line illegible) monke of Croyland.  
 Wyllm Marre (?). Carolus Stanefelde de Bolyngbroke. John  
 Wall† (2 marks). Stephen West. Thomas Gybthorpe.  
 John Howse. Master Brodley. Jamys Dalton. Master  
 Coly. John Bawdre (Swynsehede, erased). Rychard Pey-  
 cocke. Sr Thomas Burgh. Willm Rydyng. Mychell Angebyn.  
 John Butler. Thoms Samworthe.

At this place, in the roll, occurs the following :—

1515

Jhon Rooke  
 the xij day June  
 in Wesbeche.

But this can hardly mean that all the remaining entries are of that date, because one subsequently speaks of the King's Mother, and she died in 1509. Though it is of course possible that some of the officers of her establishment may have remained in charge six years later.

Continuing the names, we have :—

Rob<sup>t</sup> Eowge—Dandeson.‡ John Wyseman. Rycharde Row-  
 settor. The Bayly of Croft. Richard Hardy. Jamys Dalton.§  
 John Hobolthorne. The parson of Toft. Willm Bryan.  
 Thomas Chawmber. W Bedell Tresourer unto my ladies  
 grace the Kyngs Moder. Geffrey Saunder. John Pynder.  
 The parson of Leeke. John Stanlowe. John . . . . Willm  
 Yonke. Stephen West. Thomas Kyme. John Grene.  
 Thomas Knygte forfie'. Symond Godewyne forfeft. Evyans  
 Mayll. Wyllm . . . Roger (?) . . . (one mark). Thomas  
 Gybthorpe. Richard Grene. John Skypwith. John Aleyn-  
 son. Richard Braytoft. Henry Taker—Antony Drilond (one

\* Possibly Spalding.

† Above this name is "thropes Lynsey & pte of holand."

‡ Both names uncertain.

§ This name has occurred before.

mark). An Moderland. The Vyker of Waynflete—Boston (more not legible). John Kyme. Willm Aleynson. John Bawdry\*—Swynshed. John Dymmok. Willm Cokler. John Aleynson.\* John Leeke. Willm Calcroft. Willm . . . . Dan Thomas Therfyld mongke of Ramssay. Gerves Clyston. John Leeke.\* John Dymmokke.\* John Howett postea Nicolas Robard. Rychard Sperte. Willm Fynne. John Lath. Thomas Aleynson. Willm Mamins(?). Sr Willm Willughby. The parson of Tofte. John Knollys. Thomas Dymok. Alexander Bynn. Richard Hardy.\* Sr John Ellryngton. Agnes Thorneburgh proficuum datur Will Cutlerd dudum pat' dict' Agnetis. Willm Coote. Harre Walker—Willm Daws(one mark). John Hardy. The Bailly of Croft. John Thomworth. Geffrey Paynell. Robt Dymmok. The Baylly of Tatyrsale—Robt Polles (?). John Dymmok.† Robert Seymond. William Derby. Parson Cristofer Samworth. John Samworth. John Hagos. Richard Grybly. Richard Freckeney. Willm Pynchebek. Sr Willm Tokler. John Robynson. Adlard Dannson (or Damison). Willm Upton. John Maysthrupe. Rychard Fend . . . Wylliam Fysshier. Thoms Tyrryngham. ThAbbot of Revysby. Wylliam Kyme. The same Wylliam. The parson of Leuyrton. The Vycar of Frekeney. The Vycar of Sybsa. William Howar'. William Kyme—noseie. Alexandre Williamson—noseye. Syr John Huse. Johanne Keme. Mast' Johan Holfe. John (perhaps Johnth for Jonathan) Grendell—Lynne. Robert Hechyn. Andrewe Dymmok. Alexandre Crawthorne. Wyllm Gysnam. Eustace Ellam. Johan Stoylle. Humfrey Castelle. William Quadryng. Johan Quadryng. The l . . . ell Chauntre of . . . . ke. Margaraett . . . . w<sup>t</sup> Tomas Clayth . . . . Master Knolleys y<sup>e</sup> Clark of y<sup>e</sup> Aunnell in Boston.

This accounts for 133 of the 180 marks.

ED.

\* This name has occurred before.

† Twice before.

**977.—Drainage of the Great Level (No. 8).—***The first Undertakers. Their project. Debate in Privy Council. Opposition of Cambridge University. Project stayed. The King as Undertaker. Dutch Engineers. Their propositions. The King's death.*

While the project of the "Undertakers" was under consideration of the King in Council all laws, orders, and decrees for perfecting the rivers Ouse, Nene, and Welland were suspended. At a General Session holden at St. Ives on 24 Sept., 1619, it was ordered and decreed that "Ye tenor of ye order made at Peterburgh ye eight day of this Sept. and of this present order shall be published in every towne village hamlett manor or lords<sup>p</sup>. wch ye premises may concern within all the severall countyes by ye lords or stewards of ye leets and courts there and by ye Ministers of ye parishes before the vi day of October next to thend yt all owners comoners and other partyes interested in any surrounded ground within ye places aforsaid having notice thereof may apply themselves with spede to repayr to ye s<sup>d</sup> undertakers or their assignes at ye signe of ye George in Huntington for ye county of Huntington and at ye sign of ye Angell in Peterburgh for ye county of Northpton and at ye signe of ye Whyte Hart in Spaldyng for ye county of Lyncoln and at ye signe of ye White Swann in Downham for ye county of Norff. for making and concluding their contracts according to the true entent and meaning of ye said orders and decrees."

At the first hearing before the Council the propositions of the Undertakers were considered at large. They would not divulge the means whereby they intended to make their project effectual, but generally undertook "effectively to drain and dry the whole level and latitude of the Fens in the severall counties of North<sup>m</sup>, Huntingdon, Cambridge and the Isle of Ely, Suffolk, Norfolk aud Lincoln as the same do lie, subject and properly disposed to their natural outfal into the sea; but we mind not to undertake the deep meres, stagnate pools and gulphs whose depth doth exceed the descent of the

fall of the waters natural current into the sea for that such profundities are under our level." They believed in their project. They shunned draining on the old plan "by fraction of little particulars neither intended to tie themselves to old drains but to make use either of new cuts, bankings or any other means or engines. And their demands were to be void for default of doing and in no wise to be received by us or our heirs or assigns till after the work be done." The proposed recompense of the Undertakers\* was meagre, "the said Undertakers after they have drained the said ffenn grounds and are so adjudged by the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers shall have the moiety of the clere profit which shall be improved by their sole charge of drayning above that they are now esteemed at and (2) to mainteyn their industry for seven years." The minute of the result of the discussion before the Council explains the position of the Undertakers:—

At Whitehall ye 15 of Apr. 1620.

This day his Mat<sup>y</sup>. being present in Counsell where ye Lords Knights & other gent<sup>n</sup>. to whom lres were written from ye Borde ye 29 of Febr. last were called, ye busynes Concerning ye dreyning of ye fennes was heard at lardge and for as much as many differences arose between ye Undertakers on ye one part and ye Coiss<sup>rs</sup> of ye Sewers, owners of lands and others who attended on ye behalf of ye University of Cambridge and ye town of Lynn to whom ye Undertakers offered to give such sufficient caution not to impayr ye Navigation in ye rivers of Graunt and Owse as ye lorde sh<sup>d</sup>. think fytt on ye other part wch for the present could not be accorded betwyxt them His Mat<sup>y</sup> was pleased thus to order that ye Undertakers should on Thursday morning next, exhibit in writing what it was yt they promised to effect. 2ndly to specify what they demanded as a recompense for their labours wch writing of theirs sh<sup>d</sup> after be given to ye Coissn<sup>rs</sup> who in case they sh<sup>d</sup> not be provided with present answer a day sh<sup>d</sup> be given them till ye beginning of ye next terme when H. Ma<sup>ty</sup> and his Councell would set a fynall order betwyxt them.

The earnest instance of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge seems to have carried the day against the Undertakers. The eddying Cam, the darling of the Muses, would cease to flow, "if from failure of water and lack of provisions the colleges should be deserted and the most beautiful abode of the Muses being deprived of their pupils, like childless widows, the common tears of the Commonwealth would shed

\* Earl of Arundel, Sir Will. Ayloff and Sir Anthony Thomas, and their friends.

another river for us.”\* “If a dry soul is wisest, truly there have lately risen a set of men who would willingly render us more wise ; but if our river should be taken away, by means of which we enjoy the wealth of the neighbouring country, we are afraid they would render us not wise so much as obscure philosophers : for who would visit Alma Mater when robbed of all her supplies ? Seasonably thy favour meets this darkness, illumining us all, and lighting our lamp from its own lamp. May it none the less shine to thee when it has given light to us ; for thou hast not suffered that river, which is cognisant with us of so much poetry, of so much learning, to be intercepted by a boggy and marshy work, since the whole of that seaside region (ocean’s sport and delight) is not of so much value that the watered gardens of the Muses,† which strew with their flowers the whole commonwealth should wither up for want of moisture. But the drought of this year has laughed to scorn the undertaking, and has accomplished more than a thousand contractors could effect.”‡ The Chancellor had crumpled up the project and by the serene breath of his favours maintained for them their University’s rights, dignity and river. Who was not against “the project” ? The towns of Cambridgeshire which border south on the river Ouse, came and humbly shewed that “the winter overflowing of the white waters from the hills were found by experience to fatt and inrich the groundes making them much more fruitful in the summer following.”§ Ground under water in winter is not hurtfully drowned : “No floods, no flags.”|| Why do not the Undertakers specify the means whereby their project is to be profitable to the community ? The Council concluded “that the scheme would turn the fens topsy-turvy, and resolved

\* The letter of thanks of the Public Orator, George Herbert, to the King is dated June 14, 1620. *Gratiæ de fluvio contra Redemptores.*

† The Backs.

‡ G.H. to F. Bacon, Chancellor. These letters are printed in the Fuller Worthies Library, George Herbert’s Works. Vol. 3. Ed. Grosart. See Art. 389.

§ S P., Dom. Jac. 1, vol. 11.

|| Most of the fen towns have a little flag-fen for common use, where the people dig their firing. The flags were used for food of cattle in winter.

that the Undertakers shew the means they intend in the draining of the Levells unto the Country and thereupon if the Country find it prejudicial either to navigation or otherwise all further proceedings to be stayed. That they should go on according to Articles or desist from the undertaking and hold the Country no longer in suspense."\* It was high time. The Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers urged their humble suits "that as we for our partes have spared noe travell and chardge soe nowe ye Undertakers may be ordered by yor lopps. not to protracte any longer but eyther to open unto us their project or utterly to desist that ourselves may be at libertie to enter into some course to redeeme ye neglecte of ye yeeres past lost by expectation of their drayninge of ye countrie."† The Undertakers if they knew how they could make the fenland high and dry in three years, would not say how they meant to do it, wherefore "the king for the honor of his kingdom would not any longer suffer these countries to be abandoned to the will of the waters, nor let them lie waste and unprofitable did himself undertake that great work." The loss, the gain, the ordering of it all be ours. This royal resolve‡ was notified to the Commissioner of Sewers in February following, thus:—

James R.

To our right trustie and right wellbeloved our Comm<sup>rs</sup>. for the Sewers  
now assembled at Cambridge.

Right trustie and right wellbeloved, We greete you well.

Whereas you are now to hould a Commission of Sewers at Cambridge for the advancing of this so good and publicke a worke wch wee have undertaken in our owne person We thought good to put you in minde by these o<sup>r</sup> lres of the time of the yeare now coming on fitt to proceed in such a business, and therefore wish that you goe on to the settling of that proportion of 120 thousand acres wch you have already resolved to offer Us and wee to accept for the finishing and mainteining of that worke. for the particulars that may be incident thereunto, you will remember that it is your King whom you treat with who, as he hath already made his moderation appeare by demanding a reasonable proportion fitt for the performance of the worke, and far short of that wch other inferior undertakers have pretended unto, so he expects that for the particulars you shall proceede in such manner as may be worthie of his acceptation, wch he shall never desire to be other, then may stand with the peoples general good. And because we have found by experience heretofore that the common sort of people are apt to be jealous of any thing that is new, though never so

\* May 16.

† Sept. 28, 1620.

‡ See Vermuyden's Discourse 1642. The engineer submitted his own plan to the king.

much for their better. We therefore expect from you upon whose judgment the commoner sort relye, that you make such good impression, in them of this worke, as the cleerenes of our intent, and the general benefite wch will ensue unto them, doth deserve. And as wee shall observe if any thing should be done to the contrary, though obliquely, so wee shall take in very gratefull part their services, who shall in this conduce to our service, joyned with the good of their countries, according to their publicke dutie and particular trust reposed by us. And so We bidd you hartily farewell. Given at our Court at Newmarket, the 19<sup>th</sup> day of Februarie, 1621.\*

Thus vanished the scheme which had made the farmers "quake and tremble." The King was full of good intentions but the privy-purse was drained and empty.

The Undertakers had made an arrangement with two Dutch engineers, Cornelius Liens and Cornelius Vermuyden† to superintend the "project." Cole-seed they pointed out was to be a source of income to keep the works going, but land so cropped was not to pay tax until mills were erected to perfect the drainage. For the incredible benefits to be derived by the kingdom from the vast quantity of oil yielded by the fens, by means of this consummate undertaking, they ask only of the Earl of Arundel to procure for them the honour of being

\* James 1st in his works refers to "a kind of beasts called undertakers" which perplexed him. Possibly the reference is to "undertakers" who farmed the monopolies which the King granted to courtiers.

† Sir C. Vermuyden: The date of his death is not easily fixed. Wells gives 1656, but the Knights took an active part in the Fen business after the Restoration. Another account gives 1663 without authority, and Musgrave in the Obituary refers to an epitaph in Webb's Collection: but it is not there. Col. Chester identifies Vermuyden with an entry in the register of S. Martin's in the Fields:—

1683, April 6. Cornelius Farmedow, eques auratus.

In that year letters of administration (P.C. Cant.) were granted to the Knight's Widow, Dame Dionisia, but Sir Cornelius' second marriage is not known. In the Book of Knights, the entries cast a doubt on the identity of Faremedow with Vermuyden, although it seems that that was the English conversion of the Dutch name which sounds Farreedon, and Sir Cornelius resided in Middlesex, and was employed at Hatfield, Yorks.

1628, Sept. 25. At Windsor, Sir Cornelius Fairmedow, Middx.

1628, Jan. 6. At Whitehall, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Yorks. He had a grant of armorials in 1629.

The famous Discourse, written in 1638, at the request of the King, was printed in 1642. In 1655 a misunderstanding with the Company about his accounts obliged the Knight to withdraw from the Fen Business, and his adventure lands were sold. In 1656, in a petition to Parliament, he refers to his losses and poverty.—C.Jnl. 1656, Feb. 9th. The losses were chiefly incurred about the drainage of Sedgemoor. King Charles, in consideration of £6000 paid into his Exchequer, granted 4000 acres of the reclaimed moor to the Knight, and the patent was contested by rival claimants.

In 1653 he submitted to Parliament a proposal for a treaty of perpetual amity between England and the States General.

Act 8. That the trade of all Asia shall henceforth belong unto the United Provinces.

Act 9. That all America and the trade thereof, both of the north and south continent shall belong to England.

That when both States do agree, it will be requisite they be in posture by sea, so that they may be able to recounter the force of the rest of Europe: for it is like they will endeavour to join together to hinder the strength of that Union. (Very likely!)

In the marriage licence of his daughter Susanna, in 1663, the Knight is described as of Channel Row, Westminster. His son Cornelius was a Conservator in 1665.



made esquires and to have bestowed on them chains of gold as a memorial to their children of the worthiness of their ancestors.

Finablement qu'en considerations susdites et aussi que sa Majeste bien expressement l'a commande ci devant aux dicts Commissaires de demeurer en son service pour les dittes fennes avec promesses de remuneration ; auront pour toutes leur services et despens seulement une memoire d'honneur pour leur posterité c'est une chaine d'or a discretion.\*

The Dutch engineers were soon in communication with the King. He had entrusted the fen business to the committee of Privy Councillors, who in 1622, reported :—

That it is reasonable that Cornls. Liens and Cornls. Vermuyden undertakers to drain 360,000 acres of fenland should, out of the King's 120,000 acres, have 50,000 acres, as a reward for themselves, and reserve 20,000 to be under obligation to keep the rest perpetually dry.†

It was not easy to arrange with the Council, who knew little about the difficulties of draining the fens or of the value of the reclaimed land. Some of the stipulations of Vermuyden and Liens are quaint :—

No. 3. Que les 70 M. acres des entrepreneurs seront a eux en teneur de fij simpel soccadge non *in capite*, to be holdt of de several manners they are holdt of.

No. 4. Que les entrepreneurs seront acceptees comme pour personnes capables a contracter et avoir possession des biens en ce Royaulme et sans leur despens estre recognus pour deniaises, dispenses du serment au regard que faire ne pouvant : qu'avecq le premier Parlement sy ainsi le voudront requerir seront naturalisés.

No. 9. Que pour la conservation perpetuelle un college doit estre dressée des personnes bien experimentees et entendives au fait des dikages au despens des entrepreneurs et leur autorité.

No. 13. Que les maistres ouvriers pourront arriver librement aveq leur charrettes, chevaux, hardes aussi que les instruments comme bois planches hordes, sluyses et semblals, ne paieront point de tailles.

During the years 1623 and 1624 views and surveys were completed "with all convenient speed, and the Commissioners of Sewers were directed to make and set forth divisions betwixt manner and manner, town and town to thend nothing may be wanting to ye final finishing of ye contract with his Majestie against the time ye surveiors have ended their work." But the King's indisposition in 1624 delayed the business, and his death early in 1625 made an end of the negociations with Vermuyden and Liens. The Commiss<sup>rs</sup>. of Sewers were left

\* S.P. Dom. Jac. 1, vol. 18, 101.

† S.P. Dom. Jac. 1, vol. 127, 145.

lords of all they surveyed, and their domain was for the most part drowned during the next decade, when the works undertaken by Francis, Earl of Bedford, and his Participants pursuant to a contract made with the Commiss<sup>rs</sup>. of Sewers in Jan<sup>y</sup>., 1630, began to tell upon the surrounded grounds and leave them high and dry in winter. L. GACHES.

**978.—Horsey Hill.**—By the side of the road from Peterborough to Whittlesey, close to the toll-gate, is an ancient intrenchment (so described in the Ordnance map) called Horsey Hill. Has any careful examination of this ever been made? or is there extant any opinion of expert antiquaries as to the origin or date of this intrenchment? From the sound of the name local tradition connects it with Horsa, the Saxon leader: but, apart from the fact that it is now considered probable that the names of both Hengist and Horsa are not proper names, but rather titles of honour, this derivation seems very doubtful, and to have been merely suggested by similarity of sound.

In the account of *Lord Orford's Voyage round The Fens in 1774*, published by Mr. Childers in 1868, is a slight reference to this place. In the description of the 15th day of the voyage, 30th July, 1774, we read:—

At six o'clock in the morning the Fleet left her moorings, above Peterboro', and passing through Standground Sluice, sailed along the Nene to Horsey Bridge, where we stopped, and went ashore to see a Roman Camp, adjoining to the Road leading from Horsey Bridge to Whittlesey. Whatever it may formerly have been, nothing more is to be seen than a bank or mound of Earth in a square form, rising about eight or nine feet above the level ground about it, and, like that covered with grass.

It will be noticed from this extract that the prevailing opinion at the time was that the camp was a Roman one. It is just within the borders of Huntingdonshire, and consequently the name does not occur in *The Place-Names of Cambridgeshire*, by Prof. Skeat. There is a Horningsea in Cambridgeshire, the isle of Horning. In noticing this name the Professor says, "*Horning* is a patronymic, and the name *Horn* is known"; so Horsey may be simply Horn's island. ED.

979.—“**Sarvey**” (956).—Salvey, and Soapy, are used of things that partake of the nature of salve, or soap. They are synonymous terms, and both words are frequently applied to potatoes in the Fenland. They are especially applicable to those grown on low wet land in unfavourable seasons, potatoes that do not “cook well,” and instead of being mealy or floury are sad, or sodden with water. S.E.

980.—**The Image and Jewels of the Blessed Mary of Bury.**—The image of the Blessed Mary of Bury\* was famed throughout the Fens. Those who contemplated her image and raised up their hearts to God, believed that they had been much favoured by the intercession of Our Lady, and out of love and gratitude brought tokens to adorn the altar where her image stood.

The veneration of the Virgin Mary, which formed a prominent part of the devotions of our fathers, was based on the supereminent grace and sanctity of the Mother of Our Lord.

The fowler on the mere, the banker in the fens, stayed their toil to greet the Angelus† which rang from Bury tower.

Jocalia Beate Marie de Bury.

1 payer of bed blake jet off lx with vj patur off sylver. I payer off blake jete off xl, with v patur off sylver and gylte. Item a payer of blake jete zounsyd with golde off l with vij patur off jasper. Item vij payer of blake jete off lx with patur off the same. Item I payer off Corall off lxx with pater noster off casteldomus.‡ Item ij payer of blake jete off l with patur off the same. Item one payer off blake jete off lxx with patur

\* Bury, formerly spelt Byrig and Byry, a village one mile from Ramsey. A.D. 1100—1135 a grant of Henry I. refers to the chapel of Bury. In 1262 the church of Bury with all chapels and rights was confirmed to the Abbot. The inventory of jewels is taken from a Compositus book of Ramsey Abbey, 24 Henry VII., A.D. 1508. B. M. Add. MSS. 33,449.

† The Angelus. Three tolls on the bell morning and evening. The devotion “Angelus domini” begins with the salutation of the angel Gabriel, hence the Ave bell is often called Gabriel bell in church inventories. The devotion of three *Aves* at curfew time was practised long before the evening angelus bell was rung by order of Pope John XXII., A.D. 1316 to 1334. The morning ring dates from 1399. At the request of Henry IV. the Archbishop of Canterbury issued his mandate for the devotion of one *Our Father* and five *Hails*. Wilkins Conc: III. 246.

‡ “Sweetly over the village the bell of the angelus sounded.”—*Evangeline*. At the tink, a-tink, a-tink of the angelus, as it knells “the parting day,” the French peasant halts, and, cap in hand, repeats the devotion.

§ The scribe has written *casteldomus*. Chalcedony seems intended, a crystal of clouded quartz. Agate is another variety. Jasper is also a striped variety of quartz.

off the same. Item I payer off blake jete off v<sup>xx</sup> (five score) with patur off the same. Item l payer off blake jete of x with ij of sylver with a knoppe of blake sylke. Item l payer of blake jete of x with a ryng off laton.\* Item a payer off amber off lii with the patur of the same. Item a payer off amber off x w<sup>t</sup>. a knope off blewe sylke. Item a payer of amber off l with patur of the same. Item a payer off amber with vj patur, iij of sylver. Item a payer of corall off vj<sup>xx</sup> (six score) with x pater nosters off sylver & gylte. Item a payer of corall off xxx with pater noster off castyldon with the credo of Crystall. Item a payer off corall off l with v pater nosters off sylver and gylte. Item a payer off corall of v<sup>xx</sup> with x pater nosters off sylver and gylte. Item a payer of corall off vij<sup>xx</sup>, with viij pater nosters & sylver & gylte & graven, and vj sylver and gylte playn, and xij sylver & gylte small in the nowmber of the vij<sup>xx</sup>, the knoppe nedyll warke garnyshyd with perle. Item a payer of corall of xl with patur of casteldom. Item a payer off corall and su (some) jete off lxxx with a knoppe garnyshyd with perell. Item a payer off corall off l with pater nosters off casteldomus. Item a payer off corall off l with pater nosters off crystall. Item a payer off corall off l with pater nosters sylver and gylte. Item a payer of amber off xxxij with iiij pater nosters sylver. Item a payer off crystall off l with a knoppe off grene sylke. Item a payer off crystall off l with pater nosters of blake jete party gylte. Item a payer of amber and corall aboute oure ladys neke with pater nosters off casteldom. Item a gyrdyll of wrought golde with a buckyll and a pendant and a cheyn to the same off sylver & gylte. Item a gyrdyll off red with a buckyll and pendant party gylte.

Upon the Tyssue.

Item xxj rynggs sylver & gylte. Item j harte off sylver & corall cloyd in sylver, iij crystalls cloyd in sylver, j portecallys sylver & gylte, j ymage of our lady off pety† of moder perle cloyd in sylver, j harte sylver & gylte, ij bukkylls sylver & gylte with stonys, on nobyll off golde, A leg<sup>r</sup> (?) off sylver, A lokke with the cheyne abowte the Chyldys neke, j agnus dei off sylver with a hede of yvery, A cheyne off golde with a agnus dei abought ouer ladys necke, a fote of sylver, a crucyfyx off moder off perle.

Upon the grene† Velvett.

Ryngs and gymovys, sum off them in party sylver, and sum in party inamelyd, and sum in playn sylver, & xlvi . . . . Item ij ryngs sylver & gylte, with every of them a stone cloyd in them. Item ij ryngs sylver with every off them a stone cloyd. Item a grett buckell sylver and gylte with iij<sup>x</sup> stonys. Item another buckyll sylver and gylte with iiij stonys. Item another bockell sylver and gylte & inamelyd. Item viij buckells sylver with rosys. Item v bukkells sylver and on off them party inameld. Item a nuche (?) off sylver, j plate off sylver with a woman gravyd, ij leggs off sylver plate, j corall cloyd in sylver, j broche of sylver with a mermayde, j dobyll placke gylte, j harte sylver & gylte, j harte & a

\* *Par preclarum*, a Payer, or a set of beads, *i.e.*, a Rosary, or Chaplet: a string of 55 beads used to assist in meditation of the mysteries of the Incarnation, Passion, and Resurrection of Christ. The five large beads which divide the smaller into five decades are called *Pater-nosters*. They are often carved. The name "rosary" does not occur before the 15th century. This devotion in honour of the joys and sorrows of the Blessed Virgin was also known as the Psalter of Our Lady. Other devotions were used, of the seven dolours, of the five wounds. The rosary of S. Bridget consists of 7 *Patens* and 63 *Aves*, corresponding with the 63 years of the Virgin Mary's life. No costume was complete without a belt of *Paternosters*, or a rosary, which is often shewn on two strings, one being of ten *Aves* fastened to a ring worn on the little finger. Chaucer's portrait depicts him holding a rosary of ten *Aves*, black beads strung on a red guard. Probably the word "gaudys," *Fenland Notes and Queries*, vol. V., p. 112, in Alice Messenger's will, 1457, should read "gardys." The guard was often of silver thread. The word "patur" in this inventory means the larger beads of the rosary.

† Our Lady of Pity.

‡ Green is the colour of vestments used on ordinary Sundays.

trewlove with a perle cloyd in the harte. Item v crystalls eche off them cloyd in sylver, ij hartys off sylver plate. Item a crosse with the Mary and John sylver & gylte. Item a nobyll. Item a ryall. Item a croune, pret iiij<sup>s</sup> ut dicunt,\* j ymage imbosyd off sylver, j plate sylver inamelde. Item a crystall with a thyng within ytt, j lytyll crusyfyx sylver and gylte. Item a crosse off moder off perle, j horse of sylver plate, j plate of sylver with a schyppe graven in ytt. A grote sylver & gylte. A clothe off gold with sertayn stonys. Item on halfe old nobyll, j agnus dei sylver & gylte, j hedde embosyd off sylver. Item a nerspykyll (?) off sylver.

Uppon the Red Velvett.

A maydyn off sylver & gylte. A crusyfyx sylver & gylte, ij buckells sylver & gylte, v buckylls sylver and gylte and inamelde off the wych ij off them been gylte. A leg<sup>r</sup> of sylver. A agnus dei† sylver & gylte, ij crystalls cloyd in sylver, A ymage off Sent Georg sylver & gylte, j broche sylver & gylte with iiij diamownt stonys, ij harts sylver gylte, j harte sylver, j skalopp schell off mother perle. Item on halfe nobyll pret. iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>. Item on halfe old nobyll pret. iiij<sup>s</sup> ij<sup>d</sup>, j grote gylte, iiij pens off wch ij pens gylte, j portecolys sylver, j schaloppe schell sylver. Item a venucull‡ off clothe with a crosse of stonys and perllys. Item xvj ryngs, sum off them sylver, and sum off them sylver & gylte, iiij ryngs with stonys. Item a gold ryng ynamelyd.

Explicit

frater Johannes London Scriptor Biennie.

The inclusion with the Abbey accounts of the offerings from the chapel of the B.V.M. of Bury indicates that that chapel was served by a chaplain from the Abbey. In 1508 William Eryth, the Almoner, returns in his accounts, sub "Byry":—

"Et de oblacionibus in capella beate Marie Virginis hoc anno xvij<sup>li</sup>. vij<sup>s</sup>."

In 1519 the offerings amounted to £25, a large sum to collect in a fen chapel. But the image of the Virgin in this Abbey chapel attracted few suppliants. Brother Lawrence Laneham, in 1518, only accounted for three half-pence:—

"Et de 1<sup>a</sup>. ob. de oblacionibus in capella Beate Marie Virginis ad imaginem Beate Marie hoc anno."

The inventory of the furniture of this chapel altar shews that there were two sets of "hanging" clothes: one to hang in front of the altar, and another before the image of the Virgin. § The description of the ornaments indicate that the figures of the Virgin and Child were draped.

\* Worth by repute four shillings.

† Wax stamped with the image of the Lamb of God, and blessed by the Pope.

‡ Perhaps a tunicle, the vestment of the sub-deacon.

§ P. 54. There are accounts of other officials of the Abbey, as the Prior, the Treasurers, the Sacristan, the Cellarer, the Pietancier, the Infirmarius, the Chamberlain, and the Master of the Works.

Super tunicam beate Marie: De brochis de argento xvij unde vij deaurata. De annulis de argento xvij unde ix deaurati, et ij de auro cum j lapide. Item j manubrium de Berell, j cristall, j agnus dei super tunicam filii sui.

This describes, on the dress of the Virgin, seventeen silver needles, of which seven were gilt; seventeen silver rings, nine of them gilt; two gold rings, one containing a precious stone. On the dress of the Child was a "handle" of beryl, a crystal, and an Agnus Dei.

The repute of Our Lady at Bury seems to have risen to its height in the middle of the 15th century. Before that time the annual offerings were small, only a fourth of those accounted for by the keeper of the shrine of S. Ives in the Abbey.

L.G.

**981.—Public Libraries and Sales of Books.**—When a special collection of books has been presented to a public library, is it morally right for the custodians to sell any of the collection? Ought they, if they find that some of the books have a considerable market value, to dispose of them, in order to provide a number of other more modern and popular volumes? The question has been raised by *The Manchester Guardian*, and also in *The Library Association Record* for August and September in the present year, in consequence of the recent action of the Northampton Free Library in selling the books that had belonged to the Northamptonshire "Peasant Poet," John Clare. Clare was born at Helpston, and therefore a native of the Fen district, so that the subject is one of interest to our readers. A notice of the Clare Exhibition at Peterborough, on the occasion of the centenary of the poet's birth, appeared in Art. 427.

It appears that the collection now dispersed had been acquired soon after the poet's death; being presented to the Library by a number of persons who admired Clare's writings, and who subscribed the necessary funds, in order that the volumes might have a permanent home in the poet's county. It is stated that the books had been "packed" away, and were

never consulted. Some of them were first editions of works by Keats, Lamb, Tennyson, and other celebrities, enriched with the autograph of the authors when they gave the volumes to Clare. "The Northampton Library Committee decided that these books were too valuable to be retained as 'curiosities,' and disposed of them at a well-known auction room: one volume, the first edition of the *Essays of Elia*, containing Lamb's autograph, brought no less than £88."

We believe that most people will agree that there was no justification for the sale. It is not as if the Northampton Free Library were in any special need. And if we take the extreme case of a provincial library ceasing to serve its purpose and being wholly dispersed, we maintain that a collection on any special local subject, especially if purchased and presented to the library, ought to be bestowed *en bloc* on some library in the district, so that the intentions of the subscribers should not be entirely frustrated. We entirely agree with the opinion expressed by the writer in *The Manchester Guardian*, "it is to be hoped that this strictly utilitarian policy will not be followed by other Free Library Committees, for it will at once arrest the flow of private generosity which brought those valuable books into the possession of ungrateful Northampton." Ed.

**982.—Old Scores.**—Many years ago, long before the time of Board Schools, there was a public house on the North Bank of Morton's Leam, near the Cross Guns, which was much frequented by men who earned a precarious living by fishing and fowling in the neighbouring "washes," and by the lighter-men, or bargees, who did a flourishing business on the river, as they took loads of timber and other merchandise from the sea-board up towards Northampton, and carried back grain for shipment at Wisbech, then a much more important place than now. Even in those days "tick" was not unknown\* to inn-keepers: the landlord of the Bedford Arms, Will. Hercock, and his wife, though they were, as they told us, "no scholars,

\* See Vol. IV., p. 143.

you know, Sir," yet kept their accounts in a way that proved their capability in business matters. They used neither book nor slate for their patrons, but the score of each customer was chalked up in a prominent place in the room. Each customer had his acknowledged position; the score of one would be on the stair-door, of another on the frame, of another on the mantel-piece over the wide hearth on which little but turf was burnt: and so on. Each man's score was thus well known to his neighbours and pot-companions, and their remarks on what they saw often suggested liquidation. The old landlord would say with a smile, "Rub it all off, Sir? We don't have many long scores here."

Perhaps the character of the marks will be understood from the following description. A quartern loaf was represented by a plain cross in a circle, like a hot-cross-bun. A semicircle with a line from the centre to the middle of the circumference meant a half quartern. A horizontal line with a Q at the beginning was used for beer, a short line drawn at right angles, part above and part below the horizontal line, standing for a quart, a short line above only, not crossing the long line, meaning a pint. Tobacco was scored up in the same way, a T standing at the beginning, the lines and half lines indicating ounces and half ounces.

From the memorandum book of an old Banker, who had been Ganger over a number of workmen, I find that in entering the work done in making fen drains, a simple square was used for a day's work; three sides, two sides, or one side of a similar square, being put for three quarters, half, or a quarter of a day's work. These forms of accounts seem now to have vanished.

S.E.

**983.—Moulton, Lincolnshire (958).**—The Bovate Harde-welle. Richard Ailward and Nigel Ailward, and Gilbert their brother, hold the third part of one bovat, namely, 36 acres, and 1 stong, paying 10½d. etc.



Lambert de Hardewelle, Geoffrey his brother, Agnes Guther', Warin de Hardewelle, and Amabil wife of Alan Katherine, hold the third part of one bovate, namely, 25 acres and 9 perches, etc.

Lambert, son of Gilbert Ailward, holds the third part of one bovate, namely, 5 acres, 1 stong, etc.

"This v acres, no doubt, must be a mistake for xxv, as in the last Article : as it is hardly possible to suppose such a wide difference as 5 and 25 to be the same 3<sup>d</sup>. part of a Bovate."

The Bovate Bolistone. Roger Boliston holds half a bovate, namely, 31½ acres and 20 perches, paying 2s. 7d., and he gives 7d., etc.

Geoffrey Boliston holds the fourth part of one bovate, namely, 22 acres, paying 15½d., etc.

Walter Boliston holds a fourth part, 13 acres and 3 stong, paying 5½d., etc.

The Bovate Ulf. The widow Bele holds half a bovate, 50 acres and 1 stong, paying 2s. 4d., etc.

John, Robert, and Peter, her (?) brothers, hold half a bovate, 44 acres, paying 2s. 4d., etc.

The Bovate Houscarl. William and Thomas, sons of Nigel, Adam and Reginald, sons of Herbert, hold one bovate, namely, . . . . . paying 4s. 2d., etc.

"Here what should inform us of the real quantity of a Bovat, the Place is left blanc, as if on purpose to keep it a secret : however the next Article looks as if it would help us. Let us see."

The Bovate Gregory. John, son of Gregory, Adam, his brother, William Godwot, and Matilda, wife of Gregory, hold one bovate, of which land, John, William, and Matilda hold 77 acres 3 stong 5 perches, and William Godot holds 12 acres 1 stong, paying 4s. 2d., annually, etc.

The Bovate Olde Gregory. Robert, son of Thomas, son of William, and Agnes, wife of Adam the bailiff (*præpositus*) hold the third part of two bovates, 44½ acres, paying 2s. 1¼d., etc.

Hugh, son of Adam, Thomas, son of Simon, and William, his brother, hold the third part of two bovates, namely 54½ acres, paying 22d., etc.

Hugh Cut, and Richard, his brother, hold the eighth part of two bovates, 8 acres, paying 8d., etc. They do not give 7d.

which are called Herthpenies, nor pannage, but they perform all other customs like the aforesaid Nigel.

The Bovate of Foulere. Thomas, son of Hugh, and Sara, his mother, Thomas, son of Thomas, and Helewisa, his aunt (*matertera*), Adam, son of Eudo, Elianora, wife of Geoffrey, Adam, son of Geoffrey Tilli, hold the third part of one bovate, 28½ acres, etc.

Geoffrey and Herbert, sons of William, son of Bete (? Bele), Reginald and John, sons of Alan Godram, Hugh, son of Richard, Roger and Thomas, sons of Laurot', Richard Pindere, Bartholomew and John, Lambert, son of Gregory de Marisco, hold the third part of one bovate, 39 acres 1 stong 19 perches, paying 3s. 11¾d., etc.

Robert, son of Lambert, Thomas, son of Amabile, Reginald Someter, and John, his brother, hold the third part of one bovate, 25 acres, paying 2s. 11d., etc. Likewise Reginald le Someter pays 14d. of new farm, etc., for 2 acres and half a stong of the land of Walter Boliston, and of the land of his father, and of the land of Walter Dus, 4 acres, and of half an acre of Geoffrey Helle.

Thomas, son of Gilbert de Pincebek, and Conan, his brother, and Agnes, his aunt (*matertera*), hold the third part of one bovate, 13 acres, paying 17d., etc.

Lambert, son of Walter Dux, Alan Tilli, Adam, his brother, Juetta, wife of Herbert the shoemaker, hold the third part of one bovate, 21½ acres, paying 12d. And each of them gives 7d. which are called Herthpenies, at the feast of S. Botolph. And each of them perform all customs like the aforesaid Nigel.

“Walter Dux is the same Person who is called Walter Dus a little before. The name of Conan, no doubt, was introduced here by the Earls of Bretagne, having large property in this neighbourhood. W<sup>m</sup>. Cole. 1772.”

Names of Tenants by the acre outside the Bovates (*extra Bovat'*) in Multon.

Elianor, daughter of Hugh Geve, holds an acre and a half . . . and she gives 7d., Hertpenies, at the feast of S. Botolph, and performs all customs like Nigel.

Gregory Cornale holds one acre, etc.

William Crombis, one acre.

Gilbert Gricke, John Gricke, and Geoffrey Gricke, 3 acres.

John Kitoun, Richard, his brother, Isabella, their mother, and Herbert Kitun, hold 8 acres, paying 5s. 6d. Also Isabella, of new farm, 4d. They do not pay 7d., Hertpenies, nor pannage, nor ploughing days (*precaria carucarum*), nor starlode, nor Beltisford, nor merchet, but they give two days' work at harvest, and tallage, etc.

Reginald Belward, 5 acres. Stephen Belward, Larab' Belward, and Geoffrey Belward, 5 acres.

Roger Godisman, 3½ acres.

Robert Elger, 4 acres.

Elsi, the fisherman, Gregory, his brother, Alan, son of Geoffrey, son of Robert, 3 acres.

Helewisa Hevid, and Agnes, her daughter, hold the eighth part of the Bovate Houscarl, 16 acres, paying 12d., and each gives Hertpenies, and performs the customs like Nigel.

Juetta, wife of Walter, and Peter, son of Nigel, hold 1 acre 3 stong 25 perches, paying 2s., and each does three days' work with the sickle in autumn, and nothing else.

It is to be observed that all the Free Tenants and all the Sokemen shall give Frankpledge, namely, one penny for himself and each one of his family of the age of 15 years, except that if any member of his family is in any other Frankpledge, he shall give nothing for him.

Names of the Tenants of the Bovates in Multon.

Walter Geri holds 10½ acres; also 5 acres 3 stong by purchase.

Nigel Ailward, 7 acres 1 stong. In marsh, 2 acres.

Warin de Hardewelle, 6½ acres. In marsh, 3 stong. And 1 acre on the part of his wife.

Amabel, wife of Alan Katerin, 4 acres 9½ perches. In marsh half an acre.

William, son of Nigel, 22 acres.

Adam, son of Herbert, 21 acres. In marsh, 3 acres.

Helewisa Hevid, 16 acres. In marsh, 1½ acre.

Hugh Cut, 5½ acres. In marsh, 3 acres.

Reginald le Someter, 6 acres 1 stong. In marsh, 1½ acre. By purchase, 6 acres.

Thomas, son of Gilbert, 1 acre 3 stong. In marsh, 1 acre 20 perches.	}	7 acres of the land of Pinc'. (Pincebek.)
Conan, his brother, 4 acres 3 stong. In marsh, 1 acre and half a stong.		
Agnes, wife of Gilbert, 6½ acres. In marsh, 2 acres 1 stong.		

Lambert, son of Walter Dux, 11½ acres. In marsh 2 acres 1 stong

William Ydon, Roger Ydon, Alexander Ydon, each 4 acres.

Ulf, son of Peter, 5 acres. In marsh 1 stong.

The names of those who have not given the 7 pence called Hertpenies.

Roger Laurot, for his wife's land.

John, son of Gilbert, and Alexander his brother, for the land Helle.	}	Multon.
Thomas, son of Herbert.		

Bartholomew de Marisco, and John and Lambert his brothers	}	gave only 7d.

Land measured in Multon upon the Fee of the Lord Prior, namely, how much each one holds by Socage and in what place.

Adam Daniel, 3 acres 1 stong 9 perches before his house. In Crosneulond, 1 acre 1 stong. At his house, 8 acres 2½ perches. In Normedins 2 acres 2 stong. At the house of Thomas the swineherd,\* 2½ acres 13 perches. In Julie on the side of the west bank, 8 acres 1 stong 32½ perches. In the marsh 5 acres 3 stong 25 perches. Sum, 34 acres 3 stong 9 perches 13½ feet.†

Damet Diniel, ½ acre. Gregory Juven' 17 perches. Herbert Houscarl, 23 perches. Elger, son of Ydan, 1 acre 1 stong. Walter Dus, ½ acre. Alan son of Katerine, ½ acre. Barcon de Herdewelle, 1 stong. Hugh, son of Marione, 1 acre. Bartholomew Hevid, 1 acre. Richilda, widow, ½ acre. Elizabeth, widow, ½ acre. Thomas Porcor' (swineherd ?) 1 stong 5 perches. Agnes, wife of Elger, 1 acre. Helewisa, wife of Thomas, 19 perches. Godefrey Tillemaiden, 1 stong. Adam, son of Eudo, 1 stong.

Those who are written above beginning with Geoffrey Baldewin as far as Warin de Herdewelle hold of the land of Gilbert de Viridario, and they pay for each acre 12 pence.

W.E.F.

\* The contraction is p'cor'; and may be *porcarius*, swineherd, or *parcarius*, pinder, or fold-keeper.

† Some item seems omitted, as the different amounts add up to less than 32 acres.

**984.—Richard Fletcher, D.D., Dean of Peterborough.—**

The career of Dr. Fletcher\* was quiet enough till the year 1581, when he took the degree of Doctor of Divinity, and was appointed Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, who was pleased with his looks and his sermons. All historians remark his handsome appearance and courtly address. Sir John Harrington describes him, "He was a well spoken man and one that the Queen gave good countenance to and discovered her favor to him. He could speak well and would speak boldly and yet keep decorum. He knew what would please the Queen and would adventure on that though it displeased others";† and Fuller's notice in the Church History is to the like effect, "One of a comely person and goodly presence, qualities not to be cast away in a bishop, though a bishop not to be chosen for them. He loved to ride the great horse and had much skill in managing thereof; condemned for very prowd (such his natural stately garb) by such as knew him not, and commended for humility by those acquainted with him." The Chaplain in Ordinary was poor, and he came with a large family to a very poor deanery in 1583. The hard hearted man soon laid hands on the Church goods, on the great bell "Oswald," brought from Normandy in the olden time by Abbot John of Caux. In the injunctions of Archbishop Laud, issued in his Metropolitan Visitation in 1635, this delinquency is noticed :

**Injunctions.**

1. To restore the encroachment of a space of 3 yards long by 5 yards deep taken from the church yard for enlargement of a prebendarys garden.
2. To erect a consistory at the west end of the Cath<sup>l</sup>. Church.

\* Son of Richard Fletcher, vicar of Cranbrook, Kent, where he, in 1573, married Eliz. Holland. B.A. Trin. Coll. Camb., 1565; Fellow of Corpus Christi Coll., 1569; Prebendary of St. Paul's, 1572; Vicar of Rye, Suss., 1574; Rector of Bradenham, Bucks., 1575; Dean of Peterborough, 1583; Prebendary of Lincoln (Stow Longa), 1586; Rector of Barnack (on presentation of Sir Thos. Cecil) and of Algarkirk, Lincs., 1589; Bishop of Bristol and Lord High Almoner, 1589; Bishop of Worcester, 1593; Bishop of London, 10 Jan., 1594-5. He held Algarkirk and other livings, and Stow Longa prebend in commendam; Licence, May 5, 1590. He lived at Chelsea, where his first wife, Elizabeth, died in December, 1592.

† A brief view of the State of the Church of England as it stood in Q. Elizabeth's and King James his Reign to the yeare 1608. Written for the private use of Prince Henry upon occasion of the proverb,

Henry the eighth pulled down monks and their cells,  
Henry the ninth should pull down Bishops and their bells.

By Sir John Harrington of Kelston, Kt.

3. That enquiry be made after the executors and admrs of Dean Fletcher that some satisfaction be had from either by a fair composition or by compulsion of law for the great bell which through his means, in his time was taken away; and that the ring of bells which want repair be suddenly amended; and that you give in an account of your doings herein.
4. That those of your quire who are defective in skill or voice be removed.
5. Until you have statutes you be regulated by and governed by the Injunctions of Archbp. Parker and your own decrees by common consent.
6. That the 56<sup>li</sup> 6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> allowed by your dotations for church repairs be not bestowed on other things to neglect of the reparacons.
7. Inquire after executors of Mr. Dove 5<sup>th</sup> prebendary of the church for satisfaction for unmannerly taking away a pair of gates and a wall and to report.

But Dean Fletcher made his short decanate memorable by reason of the part he filled at the execution of Mary, Queen of Scotland. His conduct has been censured as inhuman, but he was bidding for preferment, and meant "to justify to justice now to be executed,"\* and that's human enough. To the Dean's unwelcome exhortation "Madam, harden not your heart, the hand of death is over your head. Change your opinion and repent of your sins," her mild rebuke was, "Good master Dean, trouble no more yourself about this matter, for I was born in this faith, have lived in it, and am resolved to die in it." But the Dean persisting to disturb her last meditations she summoned him to meet her before the judgment seat of God. Thus that sick and helpless woman was brought to her cruel death.

The Dean was not often resident in his Deanery, he longed to breathe the corrupting air of a Court. His sermon before Queen Elizabeth, in justification of the execution, procured him the appointment of Lord High Almoner in 1589, when the Court party secured for him the see of Bristol, "there being then many leases to pass in that bishoprick." This episcopate was titular. Harrington's account of this promotion is vivid:—

I fortun'd to be one day at the Savoy with Mr. Sec'y. Walsingham when the Dean was then upon his dispatch for Bristol. A familiar friend of his meeting him there bade 'God give you joy, my lord elect of Bristol,'

\* Mary, Queen of Scotland, was executed on 8 Feb., 1587, in Fotheringhay Castle. There is a painting at Windsor representing the interior of the Castle. The best portrait of the Queen is that of Zucharo, now at Chatsworth. It was well engraved by G. Virtue in 1725.

which he taking kindly and courtly upon him answered that it had pleased indeed the higher powers so to dispose of him, but said his friend 'Do you not lease out so and so to such and such'; and he clapping his hand on his heart, in good graceful fashion replied with the words of Naaman the Syrian 'Herein the Lord be merciful to me.'

And the good knight proceeds to narrate the practices of the Court party, as the scandal between the Mitre and the Crown.

In the year 88 that same annus mirabilis some of the zealous courtiers whose devotion did serve them more to prey on the church than pray in the church, harkened out for fit supplies to those places and sent their agent to find out some men that had great minds and small means or merits that would be glad to leave a small deanery to take a poor bishoprick by new leasing out lands that were now almost out of lease. Bishop Fletcher made no scruple to take Bristol on his way from Peterborough to Worcester, though that were wide of his right way upon the sinister or bow hand many miles as the card of a good conscience will plainly discover.

The Bishop was translated to the see of Worcester in Jan., 1592, whence he writes, in 1594, to Lord Burghley to use his interest to procure his translation to the see of London:—

1594. June 29.

I beseech y<sup>r</sup> honors continuance of that favor which it has pleased yo<sup>r</sup> Lop. to afford me to Her Ma<sup>tie</sup>.

My education in London and long knowledge of that place, continued as well by my service at Court, as by sundry other links of friendship w<sup>th</sup> psons of the city, and that the consideration of the absence from the charge wch I had, draws me rather to desire the improvement of my poor duty and endeavour to the service of God and her Ma<sup>tie</sup> in the see and city of London then in any other place of the realm. And I doubt not but it would please God to bless it withal. Yo<sup>r</sup> Lop. knows that it is something in that function when the flock and pastor desires one another. That in many things besides the main and principal matter of ecclesiastical government and oversight therein yo<sup>r</sup> Lop. from long experience knows that there may befall occasions concerning the State where the Bishop being regarded and beloved of them might be a good and ready means to give them furtherance and expedition. Besides wch, the general care and regard of pastoral charge wch I trust it will please God to settle in me for his glory there and y<sup>r</sup>. Lop. may be assured that no man, no, not bound with the bond of nearest duty to y<sup>r</sup>. Lop. will be more ready to respect y<sup>r</sup>. Lops. honorable desires and directions in that place. And so I commit your lordship to the goodness of God.

Bishop Fletcher was elected to the see of London in January, 159 $\frac{4}{5}$ , and within a month contracted the "unhappy match" which was the cause of his suspension from the exercise of all episcopal duties. Good Queen Bess was shocked. The Bishop had deemed himself exempt from the Ordinance of 1559, relating to the marriage of the clergy, which provides that "no manner of priest or deacon shall hereafter take to his

wife, any manner of woman, without the advice and allowance first had upon good examination by the bishop of the same diocese and two justices of the peace of the same shire."

The Lord Treasurer did his best to appease the indignant Queen's "christianly-learned conscience," and with success, for the suspension was removed in July of the same year; and then the Bishop displayed again, in the face of the world, the badges of his dishonour, till 13 June, 1596, when death released him from its toils. He had been bidding for preferment, and had to pay the usual "gratifications" down in ready money on the recommendation of the Lord Treasurer, who thus avoided providing for some of his Court friends out of his own purse. His lordship wanted his own money for the adornment of Burghley House. This petition, lodged on behalf of the Bishop's children, affords a good comment to Sir John Harrington's state of the Church:—

ffor the poor Orphans of the late Bishop of London.

To move hir Matie in compassion towards the poore Orphans of the late Bishop of London.

1. Hee served hir Matie as chaplain and Almoner the space of 18 years.
2. His one offence may be satisfied with the service and duties of soe many years and with his untymely death wch followed as an effect of his unhappi marriage.
3. If the rest of the debt bee exacted of the Executors it must bee raised by extent of his house at Chelsey wch is the only mean left to relieve his poor children being viii in number and some of them infants.
4. What a discredit it would bee to the Church of England for a Bishopp's children to goe a begging wch must needs follow if hir Matie bee not gracious unto them in remitting that wch remayneth of hir debt: their unkle (who may not forsake them though it bee his undoing) having 9 poor children of his own and his poor estate hardlie sufficient to maintain his own charge.
5. Hee griew into debt by no other mean then by his preferments whearby he was kept in continuall payments of first ffruits and tenths having paid into the Exchequer within 3 years the soom of 3000<sup>li</sup> or thereabouts whearby his poor children have more cause to sew to hir Maties gracious favour wch by accident contrary to hir Maties gracious meaning was a speciall caus of his undoing.
6. Hee made gratifications out of London Bishopricks to divers of the Court by hir highnes appointment to the soom of 2000<sup>li</sup> or thereabouts as appeerith by perticulars wch was an other mean of diminishing his estate.



Gratifications made by the late B. of L. at hir highnes commendation.

To my Lady Stafford out of Paddington .....	800 <sup>li</sup>
To Mr. Darcy out of Witham.....	200 <sup>li</sup>
To Mr. Edward Denny out of Stortford.....	300 <sup>li</sup> *
ffor the office of Registership†.....	600 <sup>li</sup>
Sm.....	1,900 <sup>li</sup>

IN THE SHADES.

My son, unheeded thrice my call has sped,  
 Such eager coveting thy gaze attracts  
 That none other sense seems waking. What see'st?  
 Master beloved, this gloomy air my frail sight foils.  
 That crumpled form, creeping so slow along,  
 I scarce had thought for human, upstarts.  
 Horror his brow contracts. Can dreadful sound,  
 By my gross sense unmark't in this mute realm,  
 Crash in his brain and pang of death renew?  
 It is the Dean who sold the sacred bell  
 That John of Caux had brought from Normandy,  
 Oswald, whose voice the convent loved to hear  
 Shedding his mellow tones athwart the fen,  
 The Hail of Gabriel, and calls to prayer.  
 There is no blacker spirit whelm'd in woe.  
 What fiercer doom awaits the traitor arch  
 If larceny such penalty endures?  
 Forsooth I had not been his orator  
 Yet held that waning years redeemed such fault.  
 Has he no hope to come among the blest?  
 His sins were horrible. That traitor heart,  
 A prelate of the Prince of Peace, condoned  
 The deed which put that hapless Queen to death  
 Whose cherished mem'ry faithful Scotland guards.  
 Mary, of England's mighty heritage  
 The heir, whose liberty and life were lost  
 To gratify her sister Queen's base thought,  
 Who, counselled by her crafty ministers  
 "The deed once done there is an end of it"  
 Mocking the form of justice, warrant gave  
 To execute the sick and helpless Dame.  
 Mark, mark! how fiends do snatch at him  
 And drag him down to torment aye renewed.  
 The stately phantom of the ill-starr'd Queen  
 Confronts his gaze, again the neck is bow'd  
 The keen axe flashes and falls the diadem.  
 Unhallow'd scene! Till time and sorrows end  
 The memory of that cruel deed will live. †

L. G.

\* 1596. Oct. 17. Lease to the Queen by R. late Bp. of London, of Stortford Manor and Park, Herts., for 21 years, from Nov. 5, 1614, on rent of 60<sup>li</sup>, assignment of same date.

† Dom. Eliz., Adda vol. 33, 29. A<sup>o</sup>. 1597. R. to Off. of Exeter. We remit £600, due to us by Giles Fletcher, executor of R., Bp. of London, and subsidies granted to us by Parliament, in consideration of his service and charge as our Almoner.

‡ Mary Q. of Scots, daughter of James V. and of Marie de Lorraine; born at Linlithgow, 5 Dec., 1542; married to the Dauphin of France, 4 April, 1558. Sir F. Walsingham wrote to Sir Amias Paulet of "the Queen's surprize, apparent by speech lately uttered, that none of her loyal subjects should have found a way to relieve her from her embarrassment (viz. by pursuing Mary to death), as their oaths bound and the statute warranted them to do." This suggestion, to take away by any secret course that hateful life, was founded on the Act of 27 Eliz., c. 1., for the surety of the Queen's Majesty's royal person, and purported by force of the Act to authorise all the Queen's subjects "by all forcible and possible means to pursue to death every wicked person privy to any claim or pretention to the crown"; but Sir Amias, who then had the Q. of S. in his charge, declined the responsibility.

**985.—“ Mere ” Recollections.** — About the middle of March, in the year 1845 or 1846, there was some splendid skating on Whittlesey Mere. The frost for some few days previously had been so intense, and the weather so calm, that the mere presented the appearance of an immense lake of crystal; not a ripple had ruffled its surface, its conversion from water into ice appeared to have been as instantaneous as though it had been the work of a magician. The late Earl Fitzwilliam and the ladies were there, and appeared fully to enter into the spirit of the skating, and were liberal contributors to the funds for the amusement of the hundreds who were assembled from miles round. Races took place for various sums of money, as well as for prizes in the shape of legs of mutton, new hats, and a multitude of other articles too numerous to mention. Some of the fastest skaters of the time (and they could skate in those days) were there. I recollect several of them, among the most celebrated of whom I may mention the names of Staplee, Perkins, Egar, &c. If I recollect correctly there were three of the Egars, brothers, all fine young fellows as ever stepped, who threw down the gauntlet to skate any other three brothers in England for any sum they might name.

Mr. Samuel Perkins, whom I recollect well (he was perhaps the fastest skater in England of his day for a single mile), was there. He was a wonderfully quick starter, and was in full speed, as if he had been despatched by electricity, directly the word “off” was given. Alas! Since then they have all departed to that unknown country from whose bourne no traveller returns. The ice was so transparent at the time I am speaking of, and the water so clear and free from anything to obstruct the vision, that you could see the fish as distinctly, and watch their movements as easily in this grand aquarium of nature, as if you were looking at them in the tanks at Brighton or elsewhere. Many a jolly old pike shifted his quarters on that day, and was transferred from his old haunts to hotter water than he had at any time previously been accustomed to. The mode

in which they were taken was this. If you saw a pike beneath the ice, you had nothing to do but to start him, watch his movements, and skate after him; you would, if I may use the term, very soon run him down, and all you had to do then was to chop a hole in the ice, my gentleman would come to the surface to take a sniff of fresh air, and then there was not the slightest difficulty in transferring him from the watery element to another, not quite so congenial to his feelings. By the bye, talking of fresh air, I recollect on that day the air was intensely sharp, "it was a nipping and an eager air," it bit shrewdly and was very cold.

There was a certain well-known landlord, who for many years kept an hostelry at Peterborough, "the Bull and Dolphin," who was always "Ruff," and generally ready for anything in his department. Having an eye to business on that day, he had provided a large quantity of the creature comforts of this life, which were packed, after the "bull" had breakfasted and the "dolphin" had disposed of his lunch, in sundry hampers for the purpose of being conveyed to the Mere, not merely to feed the hungry and to quench the thirst of those who were dry, but also with the expectation of adding to the revenues of the exchequer at the old house at home. Now when Joseph departed (that was our worthy host's name) he was accompanied by some of his live stock, one of which was a cherry-cheeked rosy-faced, bright eyed specimen of the feminine gender, answering to the name of Sally; she went for the purpose of assisting him in waiting upon their numerous customers. Sally's services were in great request upon that day: it was "Sally come up, and Sally go down," and she was here, there, and everywhere, like Figaro, in "The Barber of Seville." No girl could have made herself more generally useful than she did, and I sincerely hope Sally's civility and attention met with a response in the shape of the "Queen's picture in little," which she so richly deserved, and worked so hard to obtain. As I have said before, it was a cold

and nipping air, and Joseph had very frequent occasions to visit his store to see how his stock got on, and whether it was in consequence of the cold air, or brought about by the frequent and continuous draughts, I am not prepared to say, but all I know is that Joseph was very quickly seated in an arm-chair upon the ice fast asleep, and snoring most melodiously. When he awoke he was shaking like an aspen leaf, and shivering like a frog in a fit; he had some considerable difficulty in opening the shutters of his eyes, but at last having succeeded in doing so, he looked round with a vacant stare, and in a very slow, soft, and gentle strain, summoned Sally to his presence. Sally obeyed the summons, and Joseph then gave Sally full directions relative to what she was summoned for, these being his very words: "Sally, my wench, come in, and shut the door." Joseph has long since gone to the tomb of all the Capulets. Peace to his manes, but "Sally, my wench, come in and shut the door" will be indelibly photographed on the tablet of my memory. When the shades of evening made their appearance, and "twilight grey had in her sober mantle all things clad," I shall never forget the scene; the thousands that had assembled almost as if by magic, or by some preconcerted signal, began to disperse, some one way, some the other. As far as the eye could reach the skaters were wending their homeward way; they had the appearance of a routed army, scattered in every direction. At the time Whittlesey Mere was in existence, I have heard of as many as three bushels of starlings being killed at one shot. They were not slaughtered for their carcasses or for the delicacy of their flesh, but they used to alight in such immense flocks upon the reed beds, that they were shot to prevent them breaking the reeds down and injuring them. I have seen a flock of starlings that has completely darkened the air: there seemed to be millions of them, and in the midst of the flock were three kites, with whom they were having a tremendous conflict. I recollect the time when the heron, the kite, and

the starling were very common birds in this locality; now, like the skater on the mere, they are things of the past, their visits are like those of angels, few and far between. I have not seen a kite in his natural state for years; the last I saw was a solitary specimen in the Zoological Gardens at Dublin.

The above is prepared from a paper written by the late William Richardson, of Peterborough. Some of our readers may remember him as a man of cultivated artistic tastes. He surrounded himself with works of art, forming in course of time no mean collection. He had also a strong literary bent, and was a diligent reader as well as collector of books. Few men were better acquainted with Shakspeare. I have heard him say that he would undertake to give an appropriate quotation from the Bard on any subject we could name. I have known his abilities tested many times without a failure. Although apt at quotations he could not remember dates. On one occasion the conversation turned on this failing of his. He then said that there was one event in his life the date of which he could always recollect, and that was when he passed his final examination at college. He gave the date: and this was immediately proved inaccurate by one of the company, as the date given fell on a Sunday. Richardson had many friends endeared to him by his sociability and intelligence.

S. E.

**986.—Croydon for Croyland.**—A curious misprint occurs on page 30 of *Ivanhoe*, in the 1879 Illustrated Edition of the Waverley Novels, where we read:—

My honest and neglected friend Ingulphus has furnished me with many a valuable hint; but the light afforded by the Monk of Croydon, and Geoffrey de Vinsauff, is dimmed by such a conglomeration of uninteresting and unintelligible matter, that we gladly fly for relief to the delightful pages of the gallant Froissart, although he flourished at a period so much more remote from the date of my history.

SIDNEY T. SMITH.

It is probable that this misprint occurs in the 1879 edition only. A later edition that has been consulted has "Monk of Croyland."

ED.

**987.—Bishop Lindsell's Commendam.**—The episcopates of Augustine Lindsell, Bishop of Peterborough, and of Hereford, were short. Elected Bishop of Peterborough on 22 Dec., 1632, he was translated to Hereford in December of the following year; and he died there on 6 Nov., 1634.\* He had been Dean of Lichfield, and a Prebendary of that Church, one of the statutes of which provided for the deprivation of non-resident Prebendaries. The poverty of the see of Peterborough induced the Bishop to appeal to the ecclesiastical supremacy of the Crown to dispense with obedience to that statute, and the King graciously licensed him to hold the prebend "in commendam."† He also held a stall at Durham.

This provoked the following letter from the Dean and Chapter, which the Bishop has noted as "the first example that ever any bishop's commendam received such an answer from a Cathedral Church when the Bishop was a commendatory."

Dean and Chapter of Durham to My Lord Bp. of Peterborough.  
Right Reverend.

Mr. Bayly hath tendered unto us yo<sup>r</sup> Lop<sup>s</sup>. Commendam together with his Maties gracious dispensation therein contained under the great seale of England for the retaining of yo<sup>r</sup> prebend here and all profits belonging to the same whereunto, as farre as we are bound, we are and must be ready w<sup>th</sup> all humility to submitt. Nevertheless wee hope yo<sup>r</sup> Lop out of yo<sup>r</sup> wonted zeale and resolution for preventing all future inconvenience that may any way come unto the Church, will of yo<sup>r</sup> owne accord and at our speciall desire and request forbear to urge the utter extent thereof upon us. When you were here there was no man more watchfull for the freedome and honor of this church then yo<sup>r</sup> selfe: wherein wee trust you will continue: praying yo<sup>r</sup> Lop. seriously to consider what will become of the Statute or laudable custome of the Church for keeping of residence and of the dividant at the audit if dispensations of this nature, whereof this is the first example,‡ be prest upon us; when hereupon the number of residentiaries being much encreased then dividant wilbe so small that they shalbe disabled from keeping up the honor of the church in that behalfe. Wherefore wee send yo<sup>r</sup> Lop. 40<sup>li</sup> notwithstanding the great burthen wch hath lyen upon us this yeare, and the small proportion wch falls unto

\* M.A., Camb.; S. T. P., 1621; Rector of Wickford, Essex, 1610; Dean of Lichfield, 1628.

† April 25, 1633. Dare in commendam: a phrase used of a benefice which a bishop or other dignitary was permitted to hold along with his own preferment. Abolished by statute in 1836. The following is from the Heralds' Office:—"The rt. revd. father in God, Augustyn Lindsell, late Bp. of Hereford, being translated from the see of Peterb. to the see of Hereford, de<sup>ptd</sup> this mortal life at his pallace at Hereford a<sup>ft</sup>d. the 6<sup>th</sup> day of Novr. 1634: and in the Cath. Ch. there his body lies interred."

‡ That is not so; and this Deane that now is without any dispensation at all living about London and in Kent for four years together hath had notwithstanding his full dividant as if he had been present.

o'selves. Neither could wee have beene able to have done so much if wee had not transformed a great sume of money upon future yeares. All wch considered wee presume upon yo<sup>r</sup> Lop<sup>s</sup>. acceptation and contentment wth what wee said, the rather because wee will further promise yo<sup>r</sup> Lop. to give you the like due respect according to o<sup>r</sup> abilities for the tyme to come. And so praying and expecting yo<sup>r</sup> Lop<sup>s</sup>. approbation hereof wee take o<sup>r</sup> leave and committ you to the Grace of God and rest

Dec<sup>r</sup>. 12. 1633. Yo<sup>r</sup> Lop<sup>s</sup>. very loving frends.\*

Events relieved the Chapter from their anxiety about the audit. The Bishop himself must have been short of money. In Nov., 1633, he writes to Sir John Lambe, Dean of the Arches, and in a postscript adds "One thing more, I pray God, M<sup>r</sup>. Deane will you deliver for me to M<sup>r</sup>. Torlace my lord Grace his steward for the repair of Paules 15<sup>l</sup>. 10<sup>s</sup> which I should have paid in at Michaelmas and I will not fail to repay you hit and thanks besides."

The Bishop who held the Visitation of his Diocese in the autumn of 1633, was full of business with the puritans, especially

One Pearse of Wilby who is as I conceive a hollow pillar of puritanisme in that quarter where he lives. I sent for him upon some notice of his ill courses and he appeared before me and I have from his owne acknowledg<sup>m</sup>t that he and his people are much out of order. The service not intirely read and sometimes without surplice and without ye response both after ye creed and in ye letany (where it is read) and ten commandments. The minister forsooth reads all and the people sitt much and answer nothing as and where they ought to doe nor so much as the clarke and muche less doe they reade the psalmes and te Deum and Benedictus *αμβωως*. Besides himselfe doth peremptorily refuse to bow at ye name of Jesus and it seems by his talk be rather ready to suffer any thing then to doe it. So farr is he fro<sup>m</sup> teaching his people conformity on that point. Very proud and self conceited and malapert he seems to me being as it is probable puffed up by the popular vogue, an indiscreet man he is and in his popular preaching like to doe more harm than good. One passage of a sermon of his preached at Kettering was reported to me wch he confesseth and somewhat wors yn ye relation I had imparted, scil, he complained much of ye overflowinge of Popery everywher in this land and wished or hoped y<sup>t</sup> God would raise up a standard to hinder it. As for turning his afternoone service into catechising by question and answer according to his ma<sup>t</sup>ies directions he and his brethren are strongly conceited y<sup>t</sup> it belongs not unto y<sup>m</sup> because ye direction is for lecturers only, as he saith, and not for parsons or vicars not for ordinary ministers notwithstanding it be said in the direction that this ought to be done in all parishes.†

\* S.P. Dom. Car. I., 252, 40.

† Dom. Car. I., 251, 25. 25 Nov., 1633. The rectory of Castor was held in commendam by the Bishops of Peterborough. Strictly speaking, a faculty of retention was not deemed a commendam, but by 6 and 7 Will. IV., c. 77, sec. 18, every commendam thereafter granted, whether to retain or to receive, and whether temporary or perpetual, shall be absolutely void to all intents and purposes.

The Bishop was unmarried. By his will he made his kinsman, Samuel Lindsell, parson of Stratford in Suffolk, his sole executor. L.G.

**988.—A Bishop Mobbed (973).**—Bishop Marsh made himself unpopular by taking the King's side very actively against the people's favourite, Queen Caroline. So fearful was he at one time, as I suppose, of an attack on the Palace by the populace of Peterborough, that he was prepared to beat a retreat into Hunts. at any time, by the back of the Palace, by means of a boat over the river. I have a silhouette of him in which he is depicted wearing his sister-in-law's skirts—the disguise in which he was supposed to intend to effect his escape if necessary. I believe the "Flight out of the Palace" never took place.

Thorpe Hall, Peterborough.

C. I. STRONG.

There is little doubt that the above explains the feeling against Bishop Marsh in London. It is a curious instance of the vitality of such feelings that they should have found expression some years after Queen Caroline's death. ED.

**989.—The Liberty of Peterborough (954).**—Long before the grant of the charters which empowered the Abbot to put in commission justices to deliver the Liberty gaol, this exclusive jurisdiction had been recognised. In the first year of King Edward I., he was summoned to appear before the Justices in Eyre to show, *quo warranto* he claimed the franchise of his Eight Hundreds\*—to administer justice there, to have the goods of condemned felons, with other *jura corone*. And he came up with a bundle of royal charters, that of King Edgar with a "nec rex" clause, and that of Richard of the lion-heart, which confirmed the grant of the Saxon King and grants of his Norman predecessors. The King's Attorney

\* The Abbot of Bury St. Edmund enjoyed a similar liberty within 8 hundreds and a half, which were bestowed on the monastery by the Confessor "as fully as my mother Emma had the same." The Conqueror confirmed that charter, and there was always a gaol delivery separate from the County Commission.



took exception to the Saxon charters and their jangling noise of barbarous words, infangthiefe and outfangthiefe, flem and flete. "Is this good French? Do monks gain by conquest?" This weighty argument must have surprised the Abbot's Attorney, and the Court graciously interceded, asking if the Abbot would pay fine to the King and take a confirmation at his royal pleasure, or would he pray for the judgment of the Court. The Abbot would submit to a fine. This was a good settlement for the Convent, whose Saxon charters and others earlier than the reign of Richard I. were not pleadable without proof of allowance, and the King would surely be aiding to his charter and protect the franchise from encroachment. An instance occurred in the 13th year of Edw. I., when one Fauvel and others were pursued for causing the death of Wolnot Kempston within the Liberty, and the Sheriff of the County of Northampton was proceeding to proclaim their outlawry,\* the King sent a writ forbidding him to continue the process because of the Abbot's franchise to imprison all offenders taken within the Liberty, and a writ to the Justices in Eyre to allow all the liberties used as heretofore.

Quia Abbas tenet octo hundreda sua et habet in predictis retorna brevium domini Regis et quicquid vicecomes habet in dominicis hundredis dominici Regis.†

But neither bell, book, nor candle would stop the Sheriff. To lift up the rotten privilege of sanctuary and custom against rights inherent to his office throughout eight hundreds out of the twenty in the shire, to gorge the purse of a hoarding Abbot, was hateful! So in spite of the words‡ in Henry VII.'s charter

\* A criminal at large, after proclamation, was outlawed and became civiliter mortuus, all his property being forfeit. Process of outlawry in civil proceedings was not abolished till 1879, by the Civil Procedure Act.

† Return of writs: but if a writ has a "non omittas" clause, the Sheriff executes within a liberty without sending his mandate to the balliff of the lord. When the Crown is a party the writ is always a "non omittas" in law. In 20 Edw. I., the Sheriff of N. accounted for fines at the Eyre of John de Vallibus £20 6s. 8d. from the Liberty, deducting 20s. for a concealment of Henry Tallifer by the town of Thornhawe, and half a mark fine of Tallifer for selling wine in false measure; thus to the Abbot £19 3s. 4d. Reg. Godfrey, f. 99. A concealment, *i.e.*, neglect to inform the sheriff's officers of the commission of a felony, there being no actual assistance proved as in the case of accessory after fact or privity before the fact.

‡ Hundred Rolls. 7 E. 1, en 21d.

“ne vicecomes se intromittat,” which ousted the Sheriff, he resolved to give the proud churchman a “turn.” Were not forfeitures, fines and amerciament, goods and chattels of felons,\* filched from his shrievedom? Little cared the Abbot about *jura corone*. Gaol fees too went to the Abbot’s gaoler, just as covetous as the Sheriff. In A.D. 1275, a grand jury made a presentment that “Robert, a clerk, bailiff of Burgh had arrested Adam Joye and others more and from time to time imprisoned them without justification unless indeed that Richard, brother of s<sup>d</sup>. Robert, was gaoler and retained the upper garment of the prisoners or a fee of fourpence.” †

The defeat of the Sheriff in A.D. 1275 might admonish him to keep his hands off the Nesse of Burgh, but to have his jurisdiction assailed and fees diminished at Kettering and elsewhere in the middle of the County was not to be endured. In A.D. 1408, he assailed the Liberty jurisdiction anew; and his failure to oust the Abbot’s officers established the privileges of the Convent throughout the Eight Hundreds. Thrice to arm his just quarrel the Abbot obtained the King’s writ commanding the Sheriff not to indulge in the like indiscretion. The writ recites the facts in the subjoined record contained, and proceeds:— ‡

Tu tamen prefatos Abbatem et Conv: quominus ipsi prisonam sive gaolam hujusdem ac execucoem prisonum et felonum infra eadem octo

\* Amerciament. Sit in misericordia, *i.e.*, liable to be amerced by a jury. Magna Charta enacts that no man is to be amerced but by the oath of good and law-worthy men of his visne. Waiver is where a felon flies, and for fear of apprehension waives the stolen goods. Forfeiture to the Crown is owing to the default to make hot pursuit. By the Forfeiture Act, 1870, convictions for treason or felony, or felo-de-se, are not to cause forfeitures, except in case of outlawry. The Charters of 38 Henry VI., Pat. 2, m. 3, and of 2 Edward IV., Pat. 1, m. 10, contains a like non intromittat clause. These charters granted to the Abbot and Convent jurisdiction to try “pleas” prosecuted in the vill of Burgh. This jurisdiction is still exercised by the Dean and Chapter in their Court of Common Pleas.

† Gaol fees and gratuities payable at gaols or bridewells from prisoners were abolished by 55 Geo. III., c. 50. Formerly a barr-fee of 20d. was payable to a gaoler by a prisoner acquitted of felony. If he took more it was an extortion: but in a case of 21 Hy. VII., it was resolved that it was not so, because by the verdict of acquittal he was no longer a prisoner, and therefore his remedy against the sheriff who “prist son toge e argent extra son burse” was by action of trespass for damages. By a verdict of guilty this perquisite belonged to the hangman. Coriolanus scorns the fusty million who wore “doublets that the hangman would bury with those that wore them,” I. 4. And Sir John Falstaff, who wanted the office of a master of requests, was consoled with a promise of that of hangman “for obtaining of suits, whereof he hath no lean wardrobe.” Hy. IV., I. 2.

‡ Reg. Gyenge, f. 54.

hundreda inventorum habere et exercere possint ut deberent multipliciter inquietas et perturbas jam de novo ac quosdam homines infra hundreda illa occasione cujusdam felonie per ipsos ut pretenditur arestari fecisti et securitatem ab eisdem hominibus ad eod gaole nre Com. prdci extra hundreda pdca quicumque inde requisiti fuerint reddend cepisti in ipor Abbatis et Conventus dampnum non modicum et gravamen unde nobis supplicarunt sibi per nos de remedio provideri Tibi precipimus qd si ita est tunc ipsos Abbem et Convt<sup>m</sup> prisonam sive gaolam illam ac plenariam execucoem prisonum et felonum infra hundreda pdca inventorem libere et quiete habere et exercere permittas.

An ample memorandum of the proceedings of the Sheriff, which occasioned the King's mandate, is entered in the register of the Monastery kept during the Abbacy of William Gyenge:—

*Delibacio certor: tenent: dni Abbatis indicator de mordre apud Oundill facta per obtent: ministri dni Abb: judicio justic: delibat.*

M<sup>d</sup> q<sup>d</sup> xvi<sup>o</sup> die Januar anno r. r. Hen<sup>r</sup>. iiiij<sup>ti</sup> ix<sup>o</sup> Dns la Zouche de Haringworth et soc sui justiciarii dni Regis de pace in Com Norht habuerunt quamdam sessionem de pace apud Oundill et ibidem cepere indicamentum quorundam Phi Skynner Matild Lawe et Joh fil ejusdem Matild tenencium dni Abbatis de Burgo in eadem villa de Oundill causa interfecois et mordre cujusdam Rob: Hamond nuper viri dce Matilde Et super hoc dicti justiciarii scripserunt vic: Norht. cujus subvic: ibidem interfuit et receipt warantum pro eisdem arrestand et non obstante qd quidam ministri et servientes dei dni Abbatis calumpniavere causa libertatis dni Abbatis warantum pdem et corpora indicator ducend: ad gaolam dni Regis de Burgo prout libertas exigit et lex requirit, prefatus subvic cum alio ministro ipius vic prefatos indicatos abduxerunt extra dictam libertatem ad gaolam Norht in lesione libertatis predicta et de eisdem indicatis ibidem ceperunt graves extores manucapciones Et postea Dns Abbas sano consilio suo super hoc bond: habito perquisit certa Ira Vic Norht direct pro prisonibus prdet ad gaolam libertat prdce restituend vidlt prisonum alias et pluries tamen pluries non fuit liberatum qua ad delibacoem gaole Norht prox seqn media tempore contingent. Dns Will Thirnyng Capitalis justiciar de Banco et Rob. Tirwyt s<sup>j</sup>ant in lege, Justic delibacois prdce precepere vic pdco prefatos indicatos liberari Ballis et ministris dei Abb. sic dicentes in plena curia se nolle eos ibm delibare propter conscienciam suam de lesione pdca Et sic ministri dicti Vic: reducerunt prefatos indicatos usque Oundill et ibidem eos libavere Johanne Durant seneschal libertatis predictae per indentur. Et eodem modo ad delibacoem Norht. predict remissi fuerunt et deliberati ad ministrum domini Abbatis Will: Sherman et Agnet uxor sua de Ketyng virtute libertatis predictae ex precepto dictor Justiciar.

*The delivery from the jurisdiction of the Justices, at the instance of the lord Abbot's officer, of certain of his tenants indicted for murder at Oundle.*

† Be it remembered that on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the 9<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of King Henry the fourth the lord la

† An indictment is written on parchment and submitted to the grand jurors to be enquired of: a presentment is made at the instance of the jurors to the Court without any indictment before them, and the matter of it is afterwards reduced to a formal indictment.

Zouche of Haringworth and other justices of the King's peace for the County of Northampton held a session of the peace at Oundle and there took cognizance of the accusation of Phillip Skynner Matilda Lawe and John the son of Matilda tenants of the lord Abbot of Burgh in the town of Oundle for the killing and murder of Robert Hamond husband of the said Matilda. Whereupon the said justices in writing notified the sheriff of Northamptonshire whose officer was there present and received the warrant to arrest them and notwithstanding that the officers and servants of the lord Abbot protested that the warrant was illegal on account of the liberty of the lord Abbot and that the bodies of the accused ought to be taken to the gaol of the King at Burgh by virtue of the franchise and conformably to law, the foresaid under-sheriff with the officers of the sheriff withdrew the accused out of the said franchise to the gaol of Northamptonshire in breach of the foresaid liberty and took from them heavy bail fees. And afterwards the lord Abbot after discreet deliberation having given his bond and sued out a writ directed to the Sheriff of Northamptonshire for the restoration of the prisoners to the gaol of the liberty to wit the original writ, and alias and pluries‡ but the pluries was not served because in the middle of the term next ensuing Sir Will. Thirning Chief Justice of the Bench and Robert Tirwytt sergeant-at-law Justices assigned for the delivery foresaid gaol commanded the foresaid sheriff to liberate the accused to the Bailiff and officers of the said Abbot thus saying in full court that they were in no wise willing to deliver them from the gaol there by reason of their knowledge of the foresaid breach. Whereupon the officer of the said sheriff brought back the foresaid accused to Oundle and there pursuant to indenture transferred them to John Durant steward of the foresaid liberty. And in the same manner at the delivery of County gaol William Sherman and Agnes his wife of Kettering were

‡ See p. 126. These supplementary writs were issued to meet delays and false returns of gaolers.

remitted and transferred to the officer of the lord Abbot pursuant to the precept of the said Justices by reason of the foresaid franchise.

The record is silent about expenses: probably the Sheriff was condemned to pay them. There could be no excuse for his attack upon a franchise which had been vindicated by quo warranto proceedings, by long usage, and by a dozen royal confirmations of the Liberty charters.

L. GACHES.

**990.—Laundry at Ramsey.**—In the *Calendar of Letter-Books* belonging to the Corporation of London, edited by Dr. Sharpe, published in 1899, is an entry concerning a new laundry to be built for Ramsey Abbey. Some interesting details are given. The entry, to be found in Letter-Book A, p. 172, is as follows:—

Monday before the feast of St. Martin [11 Nov.], 16 Edward I. [A.D. 1288], a writing was enrolled before the Chamberlain of London in a book *de reconventionibus*, whereby John le Potter covenanted with the Abbat and Convent of Ramsey to build in their house a new laundry (*lavatorium*) of good and durable metal, 33 feet in length and 2½ feet or more in height, of strong and sufficient thickness, together with sixteen copper keys (*clavibus*) of subtle design and richly gilt, and four fillets (*filetis*) through the centre, similarly made of copper richly gilt, in return for 45 marks and a gown, whereof the sum of £10 is to be paid in hand, and £10 at Easter next, and the balance when the work is finished. The said John to provide the keys and fillets, whilst the Abbat and Convent provide the tin and other necessaries, an account being rendered by the said John of the metal so received. The Convent covenants, further, to find the said John and two workmen in the following, viz., for himself every day two loaves of bread, one of monks' bread (*panem monachi*), the other of the hall (*panem aule*); also two gallons of beer from the Convent cask, and on flesh days a dish of meat (*ferculum*) and a pittance (*pietancium*), whilst on fish days it would similarly provide a dish of fish and a pittance; for each of his servants, every day, two loaves of the hall and two gallons of household beer; on flesh days, to each a dish of meat, and on fish days a dish of fish. It covenants also to provide the said John's horse with hay and provender. Sureties for the said John, viz., "le Balauncer" [*sic*], William Cosyn, John le Coffrer, and Thomas de Norwych. Dated at "Ramesy," the Feast of St. Edward, King and Confessor [13 Oct.], A.D. 1288.

The dimensions given make it clear that the erection was not what we should now call a laundry, but a lavatory. It was most likely to be constructed in the cloisters. Many examples remain of such lavatories in England, but they are mostly, if not always, of stone; and perhaps not a single metal one remains.

ED.

**991.—Etymology of Gedney.**—I have read with pleasure your criticism on my suggestion that Ged-ney means the Ged or Pike island.

I quite admit that the Saxon word for an island is *ea*, *ey*, or *eye*; and, if the word was Saxon, it would be difficult to make the first syllable "Ged." The Rev. Canon Taylor, however, in the eighth chapter of his *Words and Places*, in dealing with a similar place, Orkney, considers that the first syllable "Ork" is probably from the Gaelic "orc" a whale, that the terminal *ey* is the Norse for an island, and that "the *n* which precedes is apparently a vestige of the Gaelic *innis* or *inch* an island."

If this is correct, then the same reasoning would show that Ged means a Pike, that *ey* means an island, and that *n* is a vestige of the Gaelic *inch* or *innis*.

I doubt, however, whether this is correct.

I have always been, and still am, under an impression that the Scandinavian or Danish word for an island is *nea* or *ney*, corresponding with the similar word *ness* a promontory.

An examination of some names of islands seems to me almost conclusive of the subject. Thus, to take a few islands in the Wash, we have:—

*Stickney*.—The first syllable is "Stick"; for the next parish is Stickford; and the last syllable *ney* must be appropriated to the word island.

*Bardney*.—The Bards lived here until they were massacred by the Danes; though, as the place was Celtic, the terminal might possibly be *ey*.

*Friskney*.—The island of the Frisians, who are also to be traced in the words Freiston and Freisthorpe. The Celts were never here.

*Oxney* is capable of either contractions, Ox-ney or Oxen-ey.

*Maxey* is probably "the May island," *i.e.*, the island covered by the White Thorn.

*Thorney*.—There are many islands bearing this name. The word probably means “the island of the God Thor”; and the Rev. Canon Taylor seems to take this view.

It was the commonest thing for both the Danes and the Saxons to call places after their Gods.

Thus we have Belton, “the enclosure of Bel or Baal”; Balderton, “the enclosure of Baldur,” a Saxon God of War; Gunnerby, “the village of Gundr,” the Scandinavian God of War; Ermine street, “the road of Hermann,” a Saxon God; Fridaythorpe, “the hamlet of the Goddess Frea”; Torgate, “the road of Thor.”

Again, in Sussex we have *Langnea*, “the long island”; *Hindnea*, “the hind island.” In Wales, we have *Alderney*, “the Alder island.”

Among these places, Bardney and Alderney are Celtic; but it is obvious that the other places, and notably Friskney and Thorney, are Danish; and, in the latter cases, there is no room for the suggestion that the letter *n* in *ney* has anything to do with inch or innis.

The above instances will illustrate my meaning; but there are doubtless many other islands of which the terminal is *ney* or *nea*, and of which the only explanation that can be given is that those terminals mean an island.

Casthorpe, Grantham.

GEO. SILLS.

**992.—Rainfall in the Fens.**—The total quantity of rain recorded in my gauge at Boston, during the year 1902, was 21·80 inches, which is 1·13 inches below the average of the previous 70 years. Rain fell on 147 days, the average number being 149; the maximum fall in one day was 1·84 inches, on the 16th of August. The annual rainfall has now been deficient since 1884, with the exception of 1885 and 1886; making the 17 years' deficiency, as compared with the average of the last 70 years, 43·94 inches. This is about equivalent to the excess that fell in the wet period of 1875–83.

W. H. WHEELER.

**993.—Deeping S. James; Trespass.**—The following memorandum of a case of trespass is unfortunately undated. By the writing it would seem to be in the 18th century. The old spelling is here retained, but contractions are expanded. The result of the suit does not appear, the paper being merely notes for instruction of the plaintiff's advocate.

“Pro que’

“John Smith plaintiff against

}	John Nicoll	}	in trespasse.
	Geo. Yates		
	Robt. Bromfeild		
	Lam. Kendall		

“Lincolnsh. W . . . . The plaintiff complains that the defendants the tenth day of June in the xxij<sup>th</sup> yeare of this King's raigne by force and armes the cattell (vid<sup>t</sup>.) one steare two heifers of the plaintiff's at James Deeping in a place called the South Drove there found did chase strike and impound whereby they were hurt and did him other harmes to his damage of x<sup>s</sup>.

“The defendants plead not guilty.

“To prove the trespasse	}	Jam. Harington
		Ro. Moor
“To prove the South Drove to be in Deeping Fenn	}	Nich. Buddle
		John Smith
		John Mason
		Edw. Reade
		W <sup>m</sup> Tursam

“The Case                      Deeping Fenn being part of the forest of  
3 Apr. 24. ff. 3.      Kesteven and disafforested in the raigne  
   of Hen: the third, and in the 20 of Edw:  
the third upon an Inquisition taken after the death of Blanch  
the late wife of Tho. Wake, It was found by a Jury sworne  
by the Escheator that in the mannor of Deeping there in [? is]  
a Fenn containing above 20000 acres lying betweene the rivers  
of Glen and Welland wherein the inhabitants of the Deepings



Croyland and other towns have used to have comon of pasture (time beyond many memory) for all manner of cattell.

“Vide the Charters exemplified 5 Jac. J. G.

“The King is lord of the manor of Deeping, which manor is now in lease, and payeth 90 pounds per annum to the King, and upwards, Mr. Justice Archur beeing the present Assignee from the lessee. That the bayliffs of Deeping have had drift of cattle and ducks, and that divers of the inhabitants of Croyland have been sued for disturbing the { Geo: Hill  
drift, and compounded and payd charges. { Rich: Hudson.”

The last paragraph is in a different hand from the rest of the paper.

The endorsement is:—

“Smith v<sup>r</sup>sus Nicoll & al. pro que.”

This last expression, which appears also at the head, may be *pro querela*, indicating that there is matter of dispute. The occurrence having taken place in the 23rd year of some king's reign, we may probably put it in the reign of George II., 1749–50. ED.

**994.—Ship of War from Lincolnshire.**—In 1635 certain towns in Lincolnshire were required to assess themselves in order to furnish a ship of war, the cost of which was estimated at £8,000. Among the State Papers, (Dom. Charles I. vol. 297, 10,) at date 4 Sep., 1635, is the return of the Mayors to the demand.

Mayors of Lincoln, Boston, Grimsby, and Aldermen of Stamford to [the Council]. Assessment of 8,000*l.* charged upon co. Lincoln, for furnishing a ship of war. They assess 200*l.* upon the city of Lincoln, 3,900*l.* upon the parts of Lindsey, and 3,900*l.* upon Kesteven and Holland, the use being that Kesteven shall bear four parts of seven, which amounts to 2,228*l.* 12*s.*, and Holland the other three, which amounts to 1,617*l.* 9*s.*; with various minute subdivisions, assessed, as is stated, according to ancient use: Grimsby is here assessed at 20*l.*, Boston at 70*l.*, Stamford at 53*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*, Grantham cum socâ at 159*l.* 4*s.*

On 16 Nov., Sir Walter Newton, Sheriff of co. Lincoln, gives receipt for 60*l.*, paid by the town of Stamford for ship-money. (ib. 301, 100.)

From a later paper (vol. 333, 23) it seems that there was a difficulty in collecting all the money. Sir William Pelham succeeded Sir Walter Newton as Sheriff of co. Lincoln, and reported to the Council that he had twice seen the collectors appointed by his predecessor, and "divers of them had disposed part of the money collected upon their own occasions," but at last, "through much threatening," they had paid what they acknowledged remained in their hands and gave account of the deficiency. Some of the money unpaid could not be collected "in regard of the extreme poverty of those on whom it was assessed"; some persons assessed had moved out of the county; some had no goods to be taken in payment. Warrants being issued to the collectors to distrain, the Sheriff got no return, "perhaps on account of the late visitation at Boston, and the fear of the sickness in those parts." He had collected 81*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, and had formerly paid 94*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* With 7,676*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, paid by Sir Walter Newton, and other sums, he gives a total of 8,048*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*; which is nearly 50*l.* in excess of the original assessment. The date is 5 Oct., 1636. An enclosure from Martin Johnson, dated 25 Sep., mentions, among other things, that "on the breaking out of the plague at Boston he forbore all public employments." H.T.R.

995.—**Moulton, Lincolnshire** (988).—Inquisition made of the sons and daughters of the natives of the Lord Prior in Multon.

William Geri had 6 sons and 2 daughters, namely, Ralph, Alexander, Thomas, Robert, Adam, and Peter, who are all our tenants, except Adam and Peter who are in foreign parts and ordained (*ordinati*); and the 2 daughters were married (*desponsate*)\* in Quappelad.

\* In a translation made by an official of the British Museum some years ago, the word *desponsata* is rendered "unmarried." There seems no point, in such a list as this, when giving the names of the tenants' daughters, to record the fact that any of them is unmarried, as it would be presumed she was so if still living with her parents. *Desponsatus* does not occur in classical Latin. In strictness it seems to mean " betrothed," but this would not quite suit the text. Wherever, in the above translation, a daughter of a tenant is described as "married," it must be understood that this is given as the rendering of *desponsata*. One passage, in mediæval Latin, seems to justify this rendering. At the annual ceremony of the Wedding of the Adriatic by the Doge of Venice, in token of naval supremacy, a sanctified ring was thrown into the sea, with the words, "Desponsamus te, mare, in signum veri perpetuæ dominii."

Ralph Geri has 3 sons, Adam, Thomas, and Nigel, and a daughter, Emma, all with their father.

Robert Geri has 5 sons, Alexander, William, Thomas, Alan, and Nigel, and 3 daughters, Lucy, Emma, and Damella, all with their father.

Adam Diniel had 4 sons, Alexander, Simon, Henry, and William, and 5 daughters, Christiana, Matilda, Emma, Letia, with their mother, and Lucy is married, without the Fee.

Alexander Daniel had 2 sons, Adam and John, *qui est ordinati (sic)*, and one daughter, Helewisa, all with their mother.

William Katerine has a son John and one daughter Laurota, both with their father.

Alan Katerine has one daughter, Helewisa, and she is a vagabond\* (*vacabunda*).

Thomas son of Levine has 5 sons, Conan, William, Richard, Simon, and Gilbert, and 3 daughters, Agnes, Ydonia, and Ada, who are young and with their father.

William Ydaine has Alexander and Agnes and they are young (*sunt pueri*).

Alexander Ydaine — 2 sons, William, and Roger, young.

Roger Ydaine — Richard, Alexander, Agnes, young (*pueri*).

Nigel Ailward — Nigel, and Gilbert, Sarra, and Lucy, and a sister Sarra.

Adam, son of Simon, — Richard, Hugh, Alan, Simon, Lambert, and Nigel, Sarra, Emma, and Emecina, and they are with their father.

John, son of Gilbert, — Ralph, and Emma, children (*parvuli*) with their father.

Geoffrey, son of Peter — Ralph, and Eleanor, children with their father.

Lambert, son of Peter — Lucy.

Gilbert, son of Simon, — Lambert and Robert, Emma, Sarra, Joan, and Margaret, children with their father.

\* Perhaps only meaning away from home.

Ranulph, son of Alexander, — Simon, and Reginald, Sarra, Beta, and Margaret, children with their father.

Warin de Hardewell — John, and Alan, Helewisa, and Emma, children with their father.

Adam Geri — Nigel, Agnes, and Lucy.

Thomas Geri — Simon, Walter, Ralph, Gilbert, Adam, and William, and one daughter, Agnes.

Baldewin Gerard has two sons who are your tenants.

Hugh Cut — Peter, and Elena.

Richard Cut, his brother, dwelling (*manens*) in Spalding.

Simon Cut is a vagabond.

Peter, son of Emma, had 3 sons and 3 daughters, Herbert, John, Richard ; Emma and Agnes are married, and Mariota is with her mother.

John Robert has 2 sons, Lambert, who is an ordained clerk, and Hugh, and 3 daughters, Kima, Agnes, and Emecina, a vagabond dwelling in Stamford.

William, son of Robert, is a chaplain dwelling in London.

Peter, their brother, has a wife and sons in London.

Hugh Geve — Eleanor, with her father.

Lambert, son of Reginald, had 5 sons, Robert, Reginald, John, Robert, and Robert. Likewise Robert has a son Thomas. Likewise another Robert has a son Lambert, and a daughter Matilda. Likewise Reginald has 2 sons, Wigote and Walter. The same Lambert has 3 daughters, Matilda, and Emma are married in Multon, upon the fee of Sir Thomas de Multon, and Beta is married upon your fee in Multon.

“John Leland the Antiquary had a brother John. W.C.”

Geoffrey Helle has 2 sons, John and Hugh, children with their father.

Hugh Helle left the Prior's fee and has one son, Geoffrey, and one daughter, Elianora, with her father.

John Helle left the Prior's fee and has one son Hugh and 2 daughters, Emma and Margaret, vagabonds.

Gilbert de Pincebek has 2 sons, Thomas and Conan, and Beta and Christiana, with their father.

Roger Boliston has 4 sons, Thomas, Henry, William, and Thomas, and they are with their father.

“Three or 4 lines before is an instance of a man’s having 3 of his sons called Robert: these are not the only instances of the sort I have met with in that Book. The famous Antiquary John Leland had a brother John who took care of him in his Lunacy. Milton July 8. 1772. W<sup>m</sup>. Cole.”

Walter Boliston has 2 daughters, Luce and Christiana, and they are children with their father.

Geoffrey Boliston — Roger, Helewisa, Laurota, and Lecia, and they are children with their father.

Walter Haldem — Geoffrey, Agnes, Edith, and Hillaria, they are married in Quappelod, and Isabel is with her father.

Alger Haldem — Robert and Simon who hold land. Beta and Emma are vagabonds.

William, son of Beta, — Geoffrey, and Herbert, and Emma.

Thomas, brother of William, dwelling in Quappelod, has one son, William.

Hugh, son of Ulf, has one son Thomas, and he holds land. Beta, Elen, Agnes, are with their mother, Beta is married.

Thomas, son of Thomas, has a daughter Emma, a child.

Geoffrey Geve is a Bastard and has one son Hugh, and 3 daughters, Agnes, Matilda, and Margaret, dwelling in free fee of Sir (*Domini*) Thomas.

William, brother of the said Geoffrey, is vagabond in Multon.

William Crombis came to the land, and had 2 sons, William, who left the land, and Geoffrey holds the land with his mother; and 2 daughters, Emenia and Emma, with their mother.

Alan Kippis and William his brother hold land.

Hugh Cornal and Gregory his brother hold land, and have 3 sisters, Matilda, Margery, and Emma is married in Spalding.

John Grick has 2 daughters, Inetta, and Emma, and they are vagabonds.

Geoffrey Gricke holds land.

Reginald Belnnard — Lambert, Stephen, and William, Emma and Beta, with their father.

Lambert Belnnard — Andrew and Emme, children with their father.

Stephen Belnnard — Gregory, Godfrey, John, and Richard, children with their father.

Roger Godisman — Alan, Robert, and Agnes, and they are vagabonds.

Walter, son of Emma — Lambert, Elen, Matilda, and they are with their father, and Mary is married.

“This is the first instance of the name of Mary that I have met with in this Register: tho’ so common now, that half the Country People give that name to their Children. Except Mariota, as I have put it down at p. 287 should be designed for Marie. In the original it is thus wrote Marie [with a small mark, not a mark of contraction] & not latinised: which made me suppose it was some other name: tho I believe, in reviewing it, it is meant for Maria. I suppose the great Veneration the Blessed Virgin was held in at that time of Day, when they thought it Arrogance to assume so holy a name, was the occasion of its unfrequency. Luther and Calvin, by degrading her, have made the name more common. W<sup>m</sup>. Cole. Milton. July 8. 1772.”

“In making the Index I observed that at p. 237 the name of Mary occurs twice within a little one of the other. W. C. 1774.”

Reginald, son of Herbert — John, Roger, and Thomas, Agnes, and Beta, with their father.

Adam, son of Herbert — Simon, Thomas, John, Alard, and William, Emma, and Agnes, children with their father.

William, son of Nigel — Thomas, Peter, and Lambert, Isabel, Sarra, and Emma, children with their father.

Thomas, son of Nigel — Nigel and Isabel, children with their father.

Roger Riche — Thomas, Isabel, Inetta, and Alice, children with their father.

Richilda has one daughter, Elewisa, and she is married.

Geoffrey Siwat — 2 sons, Herbert an ordained clerk in foreign parts, Thomas, and Lucy, are children with their mother.

Bartholomew, son of Warin, is a chaplain dwelling at Lynn.

Alan, son of Gutheram, had 2 sons, John and Roger, and 2 daughters, Matilda, and Agnes, all with their mother.

Damet Belnnard — Hugh, Peter, and Matilda, all with their mother.

Emma Baldewin has 3 sons, William, Richard, and William, all with their mother.

“Another instance of two sons living of the same name.”

Gregory Young (*Juven*) has 2 sons, John and Adam, and 3 daughters, Beta and Agnes are married, Adam and Emma are with their father.

John, son of Gregory, has 2 daughters, Agnes and Matilda, and one son, Thomas, children with their father.

Adam, son of Gregory — Robert, William, and John, Matilda married, Hillaria and Agnes with their father.

Thomas, son of Gregory, has one son and 2 daughters, Robert, Christiana, and Alice, with their mother.

William, son of Gregory — Richard, and Matilda, children with their mother.

Simon de Alstondic had 5 sons, Adam, who holds land, Hugh left (*reliquid, sic*) the Prior's fee, Thomas and William are with their mother, and Richard is an ordained clerk and serves Richard de Multon. Likewise he had 4 daughters, Agnes and Emma are married in the fee of Sir Thomas de Multon, and Emma and Isabel are married upon the fee of the lord Prior.

“4 Dau<sup>rs</sup>—2 of which Emma's.”

Geoffrey Belnard had 2 sons and one daughter, Gregory, and Lambert, and Avice, children with their father.

Richard, son of Simon, — James, Geoffrey, Hugh, and Emma who is married in Weston without the fee.

Lucy Cut has one son, Herbert, dwelling in Spalding.

Herbert, son of Simon — Thomas, Roger, and Gilbert — Agnes, likewise Margaret, married in the fee.

Adam, son of Eudon — Hugh, and Alice, with their father.

Alan, son of Margaret (? *Mariger'*) had 2 daughters, Laurota, and Alice, with their mother.

Hugh, son of Mary (? *Marior'*) had one son and 2 daughters, Adam, Emma, Agnes, and they are with their mother.

Geoffrey, the Clerk, had a son named Thomas, and a daughter, Nigel.

Nigel Geri had 2 sons, John, and Thomas, and 3 daughters, Emecina, Isabella, and Hillaria, and they are with their father.

William Godot had one son and one daughter, Thomas, and Joan, with their father.

William Hevid had 2 daughters, Isabella and Agnes, with their mother.

Bartholomew Hevid holds land, and has two sisters, Agnes, and Sibilla, and they are vagabonds.

Bartholomew Pinder has 3 sons, Richard holds land, Thomas left the fee, and Bartholomew likewise, and one daughter, Hillaria, vagabond.

Richard Pinder has one daughter, Emma.

Alexander Tillemaiden had 3 sons, Geoffrey, Alexander, and Adam, and they hold land.

Geoffrey Tilli had a son Adam.

Alexander Tilli had a son Robert.

Gregory, son of Simon, had 3 sons, Bartholomew is married (*uxoratus*), John is in your service, and Lambert in the fee of Sir Thomas de Multon, and one daughter who is married.



Bartholomew, son of Gregory, has 2 sons, and one daughter, John, Lambert, and Matilda.

Lambert, son of Gregory, had 2 daughters, Matilda, and Emecina.

“I have transcribed the whole of this Article of the names of the Nativi of the Priory, for its Curiosity. Perhaps such a List may not easily be met with elsewhere. Tho’ I have mentioned every Person, yet I have abbreviated the Article generally.”

(Fo: 212. a. b. 213. 214. a. b.)

**996.—Vicars of Moulton, Lincolnshire.**—This list has been prepared from the Bishops’ Registers at Lincoln.

1236 or 1237 Peter Saracenus, instituted in the 2nd year of Bp. Grostete.

1240 Magister John de Tid, subdeacon. (Grostete’s Roll of Institutions, anno 5.)

1243 Magister John de Sutton.  
John de Gretford.

1275 Magister George de Littleport, inst. 6 Cal. Nov., on death of John de Gretford, last vicar. (Bp. Gravesend’s Rolls.)

1277 Magister Thomas de Hypetoft, priest, inst. 4 Cal. May, on death of George, last vicar.

1310 Magister William de Helingeye, chaplain, inst. 18 Cal. Jan., on death of Thomas, last vicar. (Reg. Dalderby, 35.)

1312 Michael de Litelporte, chaplain, inst. 2 Id. Nov., on death of William Helingeye. (Ib. 43.)

1317 Magister William de Burgh, deacon, inst. 11 Cal. Jan., on death of Michael. (Ib. 67.)

1342 Magister Godfred de Spalding, inst. 12 Cal. Nov.: cause of vacancy not stated. (Reg. Burghersh, 95.)

- 1354 Magister John de Langtoft, priest, inst. 16 Cal. Dec., on death of Godefrid. (Reg. Gynwell, 63.)  
Thomas Baldyng.
- 1412 John Baysham, priest, inst. 24 April, on resignation of Dns. Thomas Baldyng. (Reg. Repingdon, 55.)
- 1415 Thomas Baldyng, priest, inst. 14 Nov., on resignation of Dns. John Baysham. (Ib. 77.)
- 1421 Magister Adam Redford, priest, inst. 25 April, on resignation of Dns. Thomas Baldyng. (Reg. Flemyng, 13.)
- 1449 William Watkynson, chaplain, inst. 24 Dec., on death of Adam Redforth. (Reg. Lumley, 2.)
- 1473 Magister Thomas Alforth, inst. 10 Jan., on death of Dns. William Walterson. (Reg. Rotherham, 7.)
- 1474 Dns. John Rumney, priest, inst. 26 April, on resignation of Magister Thomas Alford (who was presented to rectory of Berghby), subject to annual pension of £10 to retiring Vicar. (Ib. 4.)
- 1479 Dns. Thomas Brewode, priest, inst. 21 June, on death of Dns. John Rumpney. (Ib. 22.)

All the foregoing were presented by the Prior and Convent of Spalding.

- 1498 Dns. William Bonde, chaplain, inst. 21 Feb., on death of Dns. Thomas Bruwode: presented by Thomas Hutton, Decretorum Doctor, by grant *pro hac vice*. (Reg. Smith, 32. The grant annexed dated 30 June, 1492, was from Thomas, Prior of the monastery of S. Nicholas, Spaldyng, and the convent of the same, to Thomas Hutton, Decr. Dr., Robert Hutton, and John Hutton.)
- 1540 Richard Russell, clerk, inst. 2 Jan., on death of Magister William Bonde: presented by Sir Thomas Audeley, K.G., Lord Chancellor, and Sir John Russell, K.G., High Admiral, by grant *pro hac vice* from Richard Nelson, late Prior of the dissolved priory of Spalding.

- 1561 William Fyske, presented by the Queen on deprivation of last Vicar.
- 1577 Robert Leache, occurs as Minister : he may have been Vicar. He was buried at Moulton, 1592.
- 1593 James Assheton, B.D. Buried at Moulton, Sep., 1620.
- 1620 Ludovicus Wemis, clerk, M.A., inst. 5 Oct. : presented by King James on death of last.
- 1621 Walter Lynne. Buried at Moulton, March, 1638.
- 1639 Thomas Burton, clerk, M.A., inst. 9 April : presented by King Charles I. on death of last.
- 1640 Amiwell Logan. Buried at Moulton, Jan., 1658.
- 1658 Robert Heath. Buried at Moulton, May, 1665.
- 1665 Isaac Wright, clerk, inst. 12 July, on death of last : presented by Sir Anthony Irby, Kt.
- 1669 Edward Whiston, clerk, M.A., inst. 23 March, on cession of Wright : presented by Sir Anthony Irby, Kt. Buried at Moulton, April, 1678.
- 1678 Philip Tallents, clerk, M.A., inst. 23 April, on death of Whiston : presented by Sir Anthony Irby, Kt. Buried at Moulton, April, 1705.
- 1705 Robert Wilby. Buried at Moulton, May, 1755.
- 1755 John Johnson.
- 1758 John Lodge. Buried at Moulton, Dec., 1766.
- 1767 Christopher Williamson.
- 1780 Maurice Johnson, D.D.
- 1834 William Moore, D.D.
- 1866 John Russell Jackson, M.A. Died, 1899.
- 1899 Charles John Selwyn Ward.

W. E. FOSTER.

997.—**Attractions of the Fenland (968).**—A notice of Mr. C. G. Harper's work on "The Cambridge, Ely, and King's Lynn Road ; the Great Fenland Highway," mentioned at the above reference in our last number, appeared in *The Athenæum* for 10 Jan., 1903. "Mr. Harper" the notice says "will in future be known as the historian of the coach roads of England." The author's present production is described as a steady improvement upon former work. The review speaks

most highly of the volume; and the extracts given, as well as the observations made on the different subjects included in the work, make us sure that all interested in Fenland life and history would thoroughly enjoy the perusal of Mr. Harper's book. We select a single passage from the review, that speaks of some attractions of the Fenland.

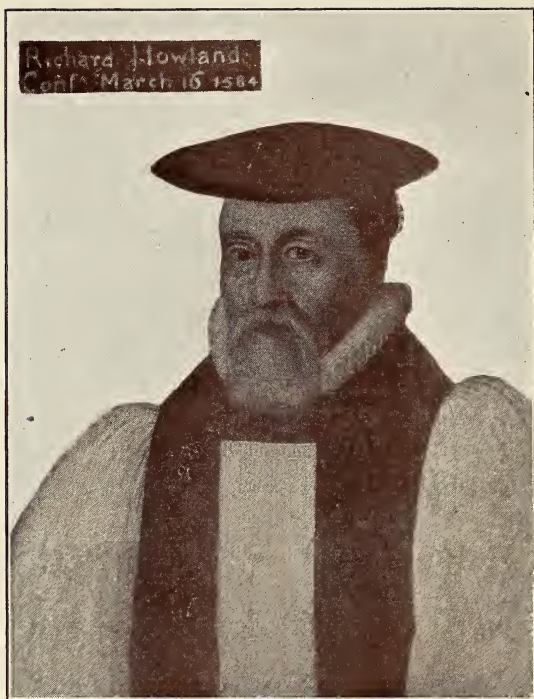
A great part of the volume deals, and most picturesquely too, with the Eastern fenlands, and the author is sufficiently wide-minded to feel that these broad flats, intersected with countless drains, have a quiet beauty which wins the heart. We even feel sometimes that he looks back with longing on those times departed when the fens were in a state of nature, the home of countless waterfowl and butterflies, which drainage and the perverse energy of the collector have extirpated.

**998.—Sir Thomas Phillipps' Library.**—A further portion of the extensive collections of the late Sir Thomas Phillipps, of Middle Hill, co. Worc., and of Thirlstaine House, Cheltenham, to be sold by Messrs. Sotheby on the 27th of April and five following days, has some very interesting items relating to the Fenland. We give notes of a few of those that relate more particularly to the topography and genealogy of the district.

## LOTS

- 217 A particular of the Mannors of Whitlesey, with an Estimate of the Value of the Fenn, with two important plans. xviii Cent.
- 219 Seven Original Deeds, on vellum, relating to Cambridge, Bottisham, Wisbech, &c. 1605, &c.
- 220 Fifteen Deeds relating to Doddington, Swaffham Bulbeck, Wisbech, Cambridge, &c. from the reign of Q. Elizabeth, on vellum.
- 607 Original Court Rolls of the Manor of Warboys, from 1 James I. to 7 Charles I., in twenty-six rolls of vellum. 1603—1631.
- 696 A Collection of Wills of Testators resident in the County of Lincoln. 1498, &c.
- 697 Five Deeds, on vellum, relating to Boston, in the reigns of Philip and Mary, Q. Elizabeth, and James I.
- 699 Eight Original Deeds, on vellum, relating to Boston, Pynchbeck, Spalding, Fleet, &c., with Plea Rolls for the County, and a long Roll relating to the Assizes at Lincoln in 1693, with names of Justices, Bailiffs, &c., 9 rolls. 1560, &c.
- 701 Twenty-eight Original Deeds, on vellum, relating (with other places) to Bennington, Stamford, Boston, Coningsby, Deeping St. James, the Chantry of Holbech, &c., and to the families of Whichcote, Hussey, and others. 1563, &c.
- 702 Original Papers relating to the Manor of Crowland, . . . Portland [probably error for Postland], &c., with Rentals, Schedules of Title Deeds, Petitions, Orby Hunter Papers, &c. 1723, &c.
- 703 Thirty Deeds of Gosberton, Long Sutton, Baston, Coningsby, Sibsby, Wainfleet. Fulbeck, Thorpe. Market Deeping, Stamford, Boston, the Manor of Sutton Holland, &c., on vellum, from the time of James I.





Richard Howland, D.D., Bishop of Peterborough.



*Richard Howland*

**999.—Richard Howland, D.D., Bishop of Peterborough.**

—I have collected a great number of facts relating to the life of Bishop Howland ; and as no comprehensive memoir of him has been published, it is thought that these particulars will be welcome to readers of *Fenland Notes and Queries*. I have taken extracts from all books in which I find the Bishop mentioned, and copies of all his letters preserved in the British Museum Library, Record Office, &c. The matter is arranged, as far as possible, in chronological order.

LOUIS MEREDITH HOWLAND.

ARMS:—Argent two bars sable in chief three lioncels rampant of the second. *Crest*:—A leopard passant sable ducally gorged or. These arms were confirmed to Richard Howland, D.D., son and heir of John Howland, of London, gent., and allowed to him and to all the posterity of John Howland, father of the said Richard, under the hand and seal of Robert Cooke, Clarendieux King of Arms, by patent dated 10 June, 1584. (Act 27 Elizabeth.)

THE FAMILY.—The Bishop's grandfather was

JOHN HOWLAND, of Newport (elsewhere called Newport-Pond), co. Essex. Will dated 8 Nov., 1547 ; proved 12 Apr., 1550, "to be buried in Newport churchyard." He married Agnes Chavatie, living at date of her husband's will, but dead at time it was proved. Their son

JOHN HOWLAND, Citizen and Salter of London, was born at Newport : he proved his father's will. His own will was dated 28 July, 1568 ; proved 28 July, 1570. He died 22 March, 1570, and was buried at S. Margaret Moyses, 24 March. He married Anne, daughter of John Greenway, of Clay, co. Norfolk, yeoman. She died 18 April, and was buried at S. Peter le Poor, 6 May, 1588. Her will was dated 24 Feb., 1588 ; proved 1 June, 1588. She had married, secondly, 7 Aug., 1571, John Quarles, Citizen and Draper of London, who died 12 Nov., and was buried at S. Peter le Poor,

25 Nov., 1577. His will proved 25 Jan., 1578. The eldest son and heir of John and Anne Howland was

RICHARD HOWLAND, baptised 26 Sep., 1540. He was at first of Christ's College, Cambridge, but migrated to S. John's; B.A., 1561; M.A., 1564; B.D., 1570; D.D., 1578. (*\*Athenæ Cantab.*, ij. 287.) Fellow of Peterhouse, 1562; Rector of Stathern, co. Leic., 1569, which rectory he resigned in 1589; Master of Magdalene College, 1576; and of S. John's, 1577. He was twice Vice-Chancellor of the University. In 1585 he was elected, 22 Jan., Bishop of Peterborough, confirmed 6 Feb., and consecrated at Lambeth, 7 Feb., the consecrators being *\*the* Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishops of Winchester, Exeter, and Lincoln. (Stubbs, *Episcopal Succession*, 86.) With his bishopric he held *in commendam* the rectory of Sibstone, co. Leic. He died at Castor, co. Northants., 23 June, 1600, and was buried at the upper end of the choir of Peterborough Cathedral. *\*There* is no monument or inscription to his memory.

The tenth son of John and Anne Howland was

JAMES HOWLAND, baptised 24 Feb., 1554. He was fellow of S. John's, Cambridge, 1577. He had been undergraduate at Peterhouse and at Trinity. (*\*Athenæ Cantab.*, ii. 235.) B.A., 1577; M.A., 1580. He was Prebendary of Peterborough (*\*3rd* stall, c. 1586), and Archdeacon of Northampton, 1587. In his (*\*nuncupative*) will, dated 31 March, proved 20 May, 1598, he leaves everything he possesses to his brother, the Bishop. (*\*James* is in many places, and even in so exact a work as Cooper's *Athenæ Cantabrigienses*, spoken of as the *son* of the Bishop. But besides the evidence of his will, as above, the Bishop was not more than fourteen years old at the time of James' birth.)

John and Anne Howland had ten other children:—

JOHN, Citizen and Salter of London, bapt. 10 Aug., 1541; married Emme, only daughter and heiress of Nicholas Revell,

*\* Passages thus marked have been added by the Editor.*



Citizen and Grocer of London. She survived her husband, but died before 10 Sept., 1614. John was buried at S. Mary's, Whitechapel, 15 Jan., 1611; Administration of his Estate 10 Sept., 1614, by his son John, and 21 June, 1626, by Robert Catesby. John was the heir of his brothers Richard and Nicholas.

WILLIAM, bapt. 3 Nov., 1542; died a child before 1548.

ROBERT, of Gray's Inn, Gentleman. Bapt. 7 Sept., 1545; will dated 20 Apr., 1606, proved 28 July, 1607. Died unmarried.

RALPH, bapt. 16 Dec., 1546; died a child before 1558.

WILLIAM, bapt. 24 Aug., 1548: was Citizen and Mercer of London. Will, as William Howland the elder, dated 11 Oct., 1585, proved 5 Jan., 1588. Died unmarried.

SIR GILES, of Streatham, co. Surrey, Knight, Citizen and Grocer of London. Bapt. 20 Sept., 1549. Knighted 23 July, 1603. Buried at Streatham, 11 July, 1608. Will dated 9 July, proved 31 Aug., 1608. He married (I) Anne, daughter of Sir John Hart, of London, at S. Bartholomew's, Exchange, 16 Feb., 1574. She was buried there 10 Jan., 1582. No issue. He married (II) Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Rivers, Knight, Lord Mayor of London in 1571. She was buried at Streatham, 30 Apr., 1605.

BENJAMIN, bapt. 20 June, 1550; died a child before 1558.

WILLIAM, styled the younger, second of this name, bapt. 20 Aug., 1552. Was his brother William's executor; Citizen and Haberdasher of London. Will dated 2 Aug., 1598, proved 10 June, 1601. Died unmarried.

NICHOLAS, bapt. 25 Aug., 1555. Died in Ireland unmarried before 1604: Administration of his Estate 24 Apr., 1607, by his brother John. He was made auditor, at a yearly fee of 40 shillings, on 29 Oct., 1593, by his brother Richard, Bishop of Peterborough. Mentioned as Nicholas Howland, gentleman, of Peterborough, in 1588.

CHRISTIANA, only daughter, bapt. 10 Apr., 1544. Died young before 1588.

No connection has been traced up to the present time between this family and that of the "Pilgrim fathers," consisting of Arthur, John, and Henry Howland. John sailed for New England in the "Mayflower" in 1620, and Arthur and Henry arrived in New England about 1624.

1557.—After stating that R. H. was born "in the town of Newport Ponds in the County of Essex," Baker proceeds:—

Ant. Wood, however, prefers [the statement that he was] born in London in 1540. I believe there is an error somewhere. Whatever his age may have been, he was entered in the book or register of the University on the 18th of March, 1557, being then described as a pupil of Christ's College. (*History of St. John's College, Cambridge*, i., 250.)

1562.—Admitted a fellow of Peterhouse College, in the place of Mr. George Ackworth (a notable man) 11 Nov. 1562. (*Ib.*)

1569.—Presented by the college to the rectory of Stratherne vacant by the death from natural causes of Ralph Aynsworth, in 1569, and he held this until the 32nd year of Queen Elizabeth (1589–90), when he gave place to his successor Roger Budd.

1570.—In the year 1570, the heads of the University of Cambridge contended against Thomas Cartwright, B.D., and late Lady Margaret professor, for his readings, wherein he vented his dislike of the established discipline of the church of England, and the habits enjoined to be worn by the ministers of it; and in effect the whole constitution ecclesiastical. He had a great party in the University, some of them men of learning who stuck close to him, exceedingly admiring him—among these was Richard Howland and Lawrence Washington, who signed a letter in company with 13 others, testifying in Cartwright's behalf, how sparing and tender he was in treating of those subjects, for avoiding offence. (*Strype's Annals*, ij., part I., 2.)

1573.—In October, 1573,\* a fellow of Christ's College called Milayn, preached a sermon at St. Mary's Church, in which he reached the conclusions, that the ordering and making of ministers as then customary in the church of England, was a horrible confusion and contrary to the word of God; that to command Saint Eves as of the apostles, the Virgin Mary, &c., to be kept as holy days and to be fasted was an abominable idolatry, Mr. Howland (afterwards head of Magdalen college) who was present, went up in the same pulpit that afternoon and took pains to answer all that was said by Millayn in the morning. (*Strype's Life of Archbishop Whitgift*, i., p. 98, &c.)

\* 4 Oct., 1573. Baker's History of St. John's, ii., 665.

1576.—Lord Burghley, and his wife Lady Mildred, having done so much for St. John's College, nothing could he refuse him that he could reasonably desire, and he having thought it for the interest of the society to have new statutes, they were thankfully to be received, and to be numbered amongst his benefactions. They were at least three years in forming and preparing: the master (Howland) had two or three journeys to London and Berkshire to attend the chancellor about them: after they were completely formed, they were sent down to the college, an. 1580 by the queen's authority, signed by her commissioners. (Baker, i, p. 175.)

1576.—Dr. Whitgift being head of Cambridge University was in 1576 appointed by Queen Elizabeth to the See of Worcester, but before leaving for his Archbishopric he wished for a fit man to succeed him in Trinity College, and suggested, in a letter dated 15 February, 1576, to the great patron of the University, Lord Burleigh, that whosoever came into that place should be a person who would keep the statutes inviolably; one of the statutes he mentioned particularly was that the master should be a single man, whether to exclude one Cartwright, who had some great friends at court, or one Redman, that some had nominated for the place, who was shortly to be married; so Dr. Whitgift recommended her Howland, whom he "thought to be a very fit man for this place, and nothing doubted of his well doing therein if it pleased God and her Majesty to like him," but although Dr. Still went off on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1577, Howland was not nominated master until July 20, 1577. He then came into the mastership of St. John's College, vacant by Dr. Still having been removed to Trinity. Howland was recommended to the queen by the visitors of St. John's, namely the Bishop of Wigorn, the Chancellor of the University and others, as a person of gravity and moderation, and of neither of the party or faction of the senior fellows or juniors, who wished themselves to elect a master to succeed Still. The queen ordered the visitors to nominate Howland in her name to the college's electors for their Master, and if the juniors remained set upon maintaining their faction, to place Howland as Master there by their power. And so he was accordingly. And soon after the whole society sent an epistle of thanks to their Chancellor, professing their great obligations to him for the great moderation of their most worthy Master set over them. (Strype, *Life of Whitgift*, i., 153, &c.)

1577.—In the *State Papers*, vol. 28, 54, is a letter of Dr. Ithell to Lord Burleigh, dated 3 June, at Cambridge, "On the choice of a new master for St. John's College, now vacant by the resignation of Dr. Perne, Mr. Richard Howland and others are candidates," in which this passage occurs:—Mr. Howlande having been for some time a discontinuer is not well acquainted in that house, and thereby hath the fewer among them, that knoweth his worthyness for that place, but is of us the commissioners well knowne, and thought to be a verie fitt man for that place, both for learning and discretion.

1577.—The following is from the *State Papers*, vol. 28, 552, under date 26 July.

Andrew Perne to Lord Burghley.

My humble dutie in anywise unto y<sup>r</sup> honorable good Lordshippe remembered. These maie be to signify that as it hath pleased her highness to directe her letters unto us, her Majesties commissioners for

St Johns in Cambridge, for the placinge of Mr Howland y<sup>r</sup> L. chaplyn M<sup>r</sup> of the saide colledge, in whose behalfe we likewise received y<sup>r</sup> honors favorable letters: so have we also acordinge unto her maj<sup>ties</sup> pleasure and therein proceeded, and have procured the good likinge and consent of all the fellowes, to her maj<sup>ties</sup> request, and then I did in her maj<sup>ties</sup> name, and in the visitors, and all the fellowes names, pronounce him M<sup>r</sup> of the said colledge, and then, we, the visitors, with all the company of fellowes and scholars of St Johns, did accompanie him to the Vicechancellor, of whom he was admitted accordinge to the statutes of that saide colledge. I do assure y<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>r</sup> that if it be, or shall be in me at any tyme to pleasure him, or do him good by any kynde of means, he shall undoubtedlye, both for y<sup>r</sup> honors sake and also for the good will I bear towarde him, find me very willinge and redie to the uttermost of my small power, and although we have not as yet altogether finished the statutes of that saide colledge, for that Mr D<sup>r</sup> Ithell beinge one in commission, as y<sup>r</sup> L. dothe knowe, and of the quorum, hath had greate occasion not to be certainlie at home of a longe tyme; Yet are we now purposed by Gods grace forthwith to make an end of the same . . . . Cambridge the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 1577.

sd Andrew Perne.

1577.—In the same volume, p. 567, is a letter dated Cambridge, 22 Nov. from Richard Howland, Vice Chancellor, to Lord Burghley, in which he “certifies that he can hear of none in Cambridge who refuses to attend the church.”

1578.—He commenced D.D. an. 1578 whilst Vice-Chancellor, when by his office, being obliged to moderate at the vespers of the commencement, a grace passed the house to enable him to wear a red cape and other doctoral ornaments, notwithstanding the statutes. (Baker, i., 178.)

1578.—He was twice Vice-Chancellor of the University, which shews him to have been a man of business. In his first year, 1578, he had an occasion offered him of advancing himself; for the queen in her progress this year having taken Walden in her way, a house belonging to the second son of the late Duke of Norfolk, the Vice-Chancellor with the heads and some of the body (by intimation from the Chancellor) attended her Majesty, and that in so extraordinary a manner as to make Walden a sort of University . . . . . A comedy was afterwards exhibited before her Majesty in a very solemn manner, the queen's music playing, and the trumpets sounding between the acts. In every thing my Lord Burghley appeared and acted as Chancellor of the University. The Queen being presented with a Greek Testament bound in vellum, the Chancellor and several of the nobility with gloves, together with Mr. Skinner instructor to Mr. Cecil, and the music and trumpets being liberally rewarded (for there is £14.9.2 entered in D<sup>r</sup> Howland's computus to that purpose), the Vice-Chancellor and heads etc. returned to Cambridge, and the Queen, having ended her progress, went on her way to London. (*Ib.* pp. 177, 8.)

In illustration of this instalment of notes on the Bishop's career we give an engraving of the portrait in the Bishop's

palace, Peterborough, and a fac-simile of his signature, taken before he was entitled to use the episcopal title. We give also a reproduction of his seal as bishop, which bears the arms of the see impaling his own arms granted to him in 1584, as stated above.

**1000.—Chatteris Church Notes.**—In Cole's manuscript collections for the Parochial History of Cambridgeshire (Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 5809, pp. 99 b. &c.) are sixteen pages of notes of this parish, which he spells Chateriz, or Chatteriz. There are lists of Abbesses of the nunnery and of the Vicars of the church; extracts from charters of Henry I.; particulars of the value of the property of the abbey; numerous deeds describing property in the parish; a few extracts from the registers; and an account of the church with transcript of several epitaphs. A pen and ink sketch of the church shews nave, chancel, south aisle with porch, and western tower, surmounted with a low pyramidal top, apparently of wood covered with lead. The windows in the aisle are all of three lights, but no details of tracery are given. The east window of the chancel is also of three lights, but the other chancel windows have two lights only. The clerestory windows are five in number, two of them being quatrefoils in circles. The porch has simple battlements, without any gable. The notes are dated 24 July, 1745. These are here given.

“The Church here is a good handsome one, consisting of a Square tower at y<sup>e</sup> W. End, in w<sup>ch</sup> hang 5 Bells; in it a small Spire of Lead, 2 side Isles, & S. Porch leaded, & a Chancel tiled.

“This is a Vicarage in y<sup>e</sup> Gift of y<sup>e</sup> Heirs of Mr. Holman, & stands in y<sup>e</sup> Deanry & Archdeaconry of Ely & Hundred of Wichford: It is subject to y<sup>e</sup> Bishop's sole Visitation: the Church is dedicated to St. Peter & St. Paul, & formerly belonged to y<sup>e</sup> Priory in this Town. The Rev. Mr. Muriell is y<sup>e</sup> present Vicar: & is valued in y<sup>e</sup> King's Books at 10 . 00 . 00.

“There was antiently a Monastery of Benedictine Nuns : but for an Account of it Vid : Dugdale’s Mon : Angl ; abridg’d p. 35. 216. Bp. Tanners Not : Mon : p. 40. Browne Willis’s Hist : of Abbeys Vol : 2. p. 48.

“The Altar is on one Step, and rail’d round : there are 2 Places\* for H. Water in y<sup>e</sup>. S. Wall : at y<sup>e</sup>. foot of y<sup>e</sup>. Step from one side of y<sup>e</sup>. Chancel to y<sup>e</sup>. other, lie 5 black Marbles, y<sup>e</sup>. middlemost but a small one ; all close to one another : y<sup>e</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup>. under y<sup>e</sup>. S. Wall a handsome black Marble Slab with this Inscription :

“E. H. Memoriae Sacrum.  
 Strata inter sacros hos Parietes contigua Marmora  
 Consopitos obtegunt.  
 Mariti, Conjugis, Prolisque, suæ pretiosos Cineres,  
 Suavissimo Holmanni Nomine, pollinctos omnes:  
 Multiplex Mariti Meritum proximum attingit Monumentum.  
 Conjugis (huic† placide dormientis) Pietatem,  
 Indolemque eximie singularem, felicius testantur  
 Egeni, Afflicti, Clinici, Parentibus orbi orbæque,  
 Et (præ cæteris) Confessores innocui  
 Bonis omnibus, præter bonam Conscientiam, spoliati ;  
 Singuli nempe, pro Re nata, Largitionibus ejus ubertim refecti.  
 Uxor erat per undecennium fidissima, amantissimoque Viro  
 In Affectu conjugali cumulaté Par, in cæteris devotissima.  
 Vidua per quadraginta sex annos supervixit ; lugubris sane,  
 et Univira semper, adeoque vere Apostolica,  
 usque dum albam induitura Sanctorum Stolum  
 Cœlicolorum Cœtus, vacante Deo, hilaris emigravit ;  
 Maij sc : xxvii<sup>to</sup>. Anno Æræ X<sup>anæ</sup> MDCCXIX :  
 Ætat. suæ LXXIII.  
 Lachrymis irrorate Tumulum, Lectores humani,  
 Quem fleturiens posuit Nepos,  
 e suissimis cherissimus & Hæres ex asse,  
 Simon Hake, Generosus,  
 Grati Animi Pignus (quod potuit) pusillum ;  
 Magnæ Animæ Monumentum,  
 (quod voluit) sempiternum.  
 Composed by Mr. Sclater the deprived Vicar.

“On y<sup>e</sup>. S. Wall hangs an Atchievement with these Arms : viz : B. a Chevron A. guttée de Sang, inter 3 Pheons O. Under them is wrote :

“Michael Holman Armig.  
 obiit 19 Die Octob: An: Dom:  
 1673.

Crest is a Cross Bow erect O. int: a pair of Wings G.”

\* Piscinas, not Holy Water Stoups.—Ed.

† “*hic forsân.*”

A sketch of these arms is given, and a reference to another of Cole's volumes where the name of William Holman of Warkworth, co. Northants. are described as B. a Chev. inter 3 Pheons, O.\*

At a later page is given a translation of this inscription, which may be given here.

"The following Translation of Mrs. Holman's Epitaph was performed by Mr. Sclater the deprived Vicar, who composed it.

"Sacred to the Memory of Mrs. Eleanor Holman. The Marble Stones, which lye near to one another, between these Holy Walls, over the valuable Ashes of a Husband, a Wife, & their whole Offspring, sleeping quietly together, & all of them embalmed with the sweet-smelling Name of the Holmans. The Tombstone, next to this, briefly shews the Merits of the Husband; the Piety & eminent Genius of the Wife, (who sweetly sleeps here) are more happily recorded in another Way: The Poor, the Afflicted, the Bed-rid, the Orphans, (male & female) & especially the unfortunate Confessors (stript of all their Goods, except a good Conscience) are living Testimonies for them: each of these (as Necessity required) having been plentifully refreshed with her Charitable Benefactions. She lived a faithful Wife for eleven years together equal (to the full) in conjugal Affection to a very worthy Husband: in all other Things piously resigned to him: She survived him six & forty years; a mournfull Widow indeed, but a truly Apostolical one: being Wife but of one Husband to the End: when changing her mourning Weeds for the white Robes of the Blessed above, she cheerfully removed hence (at the Summons of God) into the Heavenly Quire, May 26 in the Year of the Christian Epoch 1719 & of her Age the 73<sup>d</sup>. Bedew with Tears (ye gentle Readers) this funeral Stone, which her mournfull Nephew Simon Hake Gent: (the dearest of Relations to her, & sole Heir of her Possessions) has laid here: a slender Pledge of his gratefull Mind to her, but an everlasting Monument (as he wishes it to be) of the great Soul departed."

The translation, it will be seen, is not literal. The Confessors spoken of were no doubt Nonjurors, and Mr. Sclater, the deprived Vicar, probably lost his living for refusing to take the oaths to George I., and may have been one of the recipients of Mrs. Holman's bounty. The manifold merits of her husband are set forth in the next inscription.

"Close to y<sup>e</sup> said black Marble on y<sup>e</sup> N. lies another of y<sup>e</sup> same Sort with this Inscription.

"Hic jacet Michael Holman de Interiore Hospitio Armiger,  
quem in Ætatis Meridie, aut non multum citra  
abstulit Febris maligna.  
Amisit Patria Pacis Custodem integerrimum,

\* The letter B stands for no colour in heraldry. The Holman family, Baronets, of Banbury, co. Oxi., had the field Vert, the chevron Or, and the pheons argent.

Ecclesia Filium sincerum piumque ;  
 Lugent Clientes Advocatum suum cordatum et acerrimum ;  
 Pauperes imprimis suum Mæcenatem et Asylum ,  
 Amici, quos plurimos habuit,  
 suum plus quam Pyladen aut Oresten :  
 Uxor autem tam acerbe Mortem fert, ut pene patiatur,  
 et in eo, quod Illi pie ac amanter condidit,  
 Mærore prorsus attonita, quiescere cupiat Monumento.  
 Obiit 19 Octob: Anno Dom: 1673.  
 Ætat: suæ 43.

“Close to this on y<sup>c</sup> N. exactly in y<sup>c</sup> middle before y<sup>c</sup> Altar, on a small black Marble is this Inscription :

“Michael } Holman the  
 George } onely Children  
 of Michael Holman Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
 & Eleanor his Wife.

“On a large black Marble close to this on y<sup>c</sup> N. is this Inscription :

“Here lyeth the Body of  
 George Gascoigne Gent :  
 deceased y<sup>c</sup>. 16 Apr: 1666  
 aged 63.

“Close to this on y<sup>c</sup> N. ab<sup>t</sup> 2 feet from y<sup>c</sup> N. Wall, lies another large black marble Slab with this Inscription :

“Here lyeth the Body of  
 Dorothy y<sup>c</sup>. Wife of George  
 Gascoigne Gent : aged 75,  
 died April 5. 1678.

“Mr. Holman’s wife was a Gascoigne, Daughter, I imagine, to these two Persons. At y<sup>c</sup> head of these 2 last lies a handsome black marble Slab, with these Arms at top: viz: two Barrs & on a Cheif 3 Martlets. Crest a Buck couch<sup>t</sup>. regard<sup>t</sup>. [Sketch.]

“Here lyeth the Body of  
 Malbon Carill Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
 who departed this Life the  
 17 day of April 1705  
 aged 50 years.

“Close to this on y<sup>c</sup> S. & exactly in y<sup>c</sup> middle of y<sup>c</sup> Chancel, at y<sup>c</sup> Head of y<sup>c</sup> small black Marble before y<sup>c</sup> Altar, lies an old grey Marble disrob’d of a half Figure, Inscription & Coat : Close to it on y<sup>c</sup> S. on a handsome black Marble is this Inscription :



“ Here lyeth the Body of  
 Mrs. Sarah Hart, who  
 departed this Life August 17.  
 1707. Aged 70 years.  
 In pious Memory of whom, Mrs. Carill,  
 her daughter, caused this Stone to be layd.

“ Just as you enter y<sup>e</sup>. Chancel, at y<sup>e</sup>. head of y<sup>e</sup>. middle  
 grey Marble, lies a large black Marble with this Inscription :

“ Johannes Carill, Armiger  
 obiit 2 Die Feb: Anno  
 Domini 1669 Ætat: suæ 65.

“ The Nave is separated from y<sup>e</sup>. Chancel by a Screen, over  
 it are y<sup>e</sup>. Royal Arms ; & Thomas Leay, & William Whinn,  
 Church-Wardens 1722. W<sup>m</sup>. Whynn lies buried in y<sup>e</sup>. Church  
 Yard of Mepole, where he lived some time before his Death :  
 vid : his Epitaph in Vol: 6. p. of these Collections. There  
 are 4 Pillars on each Side of the Nave ; y<sup>e</sup>. old Pulpit stands  
 ag<sup>st</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup>. on y<sup>e</sup>. S. & y<sup>e</sup>. old Font under y<sup>e</sup>. last & the Gallery  
 w<sup>ch</sup>. runs across y<sup>e</sup>. bottom of y<sup>e</sup>. middle Isle : Opposite y<sup>e</sup>. 3<sup>d</sup>.  
 Pillar in this middle Isle lies a handsome black marble Slab  
 with this Inscription :

“ In Memory of Alice  
 the Daughter of John & Mary Brooks  
 who departed this Life  
 y<sup>e</sup>. 22 of July 1728,  
 aged 22 years.

“ At y<sup>e</sup>. bottom of y<sup>e</sup>. N. Isle by y<sup>e</sup>. Door lies a good hand-  
 some large free Stone with this Inscription :

“ In Memory of  
 Elizabeth y<sup>e</sup>. Wife of  
 John Muriel  
 who dyed Sept: y<sup>e</sup>. 13  
 1737 aged 35.

“ About the middle of this N. Isle, under y<sup>e</sup>. lowest Window,  
 to y<sup>e</sup>. E. of y<sup>e</sup>. Door lies a large handsome free Stone with  
 this Inscription :

“ Robert Moule  
 died March 31 1720  
 Ætat: suæ 36.  
 Elizabeth the Wife of  
 Robert Moule died Aug: 20  
 1743  
 Ætat: suæ 63.”

This Robert Moule was a relation of the first wife of the Rev. W. Cole's father. His epitaph gives occasion for a disquisition on the members of the family which takes up a page and a half. He then resumes his subject.

"Come we now to Chatteriz Church, w<sup>ch</sup>. I had almost forgot in this Enumeration of my Family . . . . At y<sup>e</sup>. E. End of this N. Isle lie 3 handsome large black marble Slabs : two of them lie close to each other touching y<sup>e</sup>. E. end & in y<sup>e</sup>. Pew, partly covered by the Head of it : that to y<sup>e</sup>. N. has this only legible by reason of y<sup>e</sup>. Pew :

" Here . . . .  
Reade . . . .  
departed this Life  
May y<sup>e</sup>. 29. 1709  
aged 76 Years.

" On that to the S. of it is this Inscription :

" Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of Richard  
Parlatt Reade Esqr.  
who was High Sheriff of  
Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire  
and the Isle of Ely,  
in y<sup>e</sup>. Year 1700: who departed this  
Life Decemb: 28 1704 in y<sup>e</sup>. 35 Year  
of his Age.  
Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of Elizabeth  
Daughter of  
Joseph & Ann Chapman who died  
April y<sup>e</sup>. 9 in y<sup>e</sup>. 8 Year of her  
Age.

" At y<sup>e</sup>. head of this on y<sup>e</sup>. N. Isle lies another black marble Slab, partly covered by y<sup>e</sup>. Pews on y<sup>e</sup>. N. side : on it is this Inscription :

" Here lyeth y<sup>e</sup>. Body  
of Richard Reade . . . .  
who departed this . . . .  
Decemb 28 17 . . . .  
in y<sup>e</sup>. 82 Year of . . . .  
Age.

" I went to School with a Reade of this Family & who now enjoys this Estate, w<sup>ch</sup>. is a very good one, of 3 or 400 P<sup>ds</sup>. per An: at Saffron Walden in Essex, before I went to Eton, to y<sup>e</sup>. Rev: Mr. Butts, Cousin German to y<sup>e</sup>. Lord Bp. of this Diocese ; w<sup>ch</sup>. Mr. Reade, as soon as ever he was taken from School, w<sup>ch</sup>. was very young, not above 15 or 16, was by his

Guardian, a Clergyman, married to his Daughter. I have not seen this Gentleman since I went to School with him.

“ On y<sup>e</sup>. S. side of y<sup>e</sup>. Church Yard, on an Altar Tomb is y<sup>e</sup>. following Inscription :

“ Here lieth y<sup>e</sup>. Body of  
George Leach who departed  
September y<sup>e</sup>. 24, 1744, aged  
57 Years.

“ Mr. Webb, a Quaker, who keeps y<sup>e</sup>. Workhouse in Cambridge, has a good Estate in this Town, by means of his Wife, y<sup>e</sup>. Widow D’oyley: She was only a Servant Maid to Mr. Doyley when he married her. The Rev: Mr. Fountain, late of S<sup>t</sup> Catherine’s Hall & Canon of Windsor & Salisbury has a very fine Estate in this Parish ; as had also my Friend y<sup>e</sup>. late M<sup>r</sup>. Porter Thompson of Trumpington, a Farm in this Parish, called Hony, of 300 p<sup>ds</sup>. per Annum. Mr. Hake, who lives in y<sup>e</sup>. Scite of y<sup>e</sup>. old Priory, & who has a good Estate here, & also at Whittlesea, where see some of his Ancestors Epitaphs in St. Mary’s Church there Vol. 9. p. 2. has 2 Daughters ab<sup>t</sup>. 20 y<sup>rs</sup>. of age, unmarried. He is look’d upon to be somewhat disordered in his Intellects. Mr. Hake died Lady Day 1746 & was buried on the South Side of the Altar in this Church within the Rails: his Widow has sent to Holland for a large blew Marble to cover his Grave. Mrs. Hake is a very fine & prudent Woman ; her name was Johnson & is of Pomfret in Yorkshire & Sister to the Chancellor, I think, of Landaff. She told me that before Mr. Hake’s Death she staid within the Walls of the Abbey for 7 years & never stirred out: for as they were Non-jurors they went not to Church: since his Death this Abbey & Presentation to the Vicarage have been sold. The Fish House, where y<sup>e</sup>. Nuns used to dry their Fish is still entire & so is their Granary.”

In Essex’s Collections in the British Museum (Add. MSS. 6768, 245), is a very short notice of Chatteris church. A slight sketch gives one of the clerestory windows, a quatrefoil in a circle, which is described as “The Inside of one of the

upper windows in Chatteris Church above y<sup>e</sup> Arches." All that is said of the building is this:—"The Church itselfe is a mean building, it has a Spire cover'd with Lead but modern built and much too low. The outer wall of the north Aile has been rebuilt with brick & the window frames are made of wood."

From a memorandum of accounts in this volume it appears that these notes were taken in 1778. Ed.

**1001.—Drainage of the Great Level (No. 9).—***Tipper's Scheme. Sir Anthony Thomas. Earl of Bedford, 1631. Indenture of Fourteen Parts. Horse Shoe Sluice. Nene Outfall. White Hall. Piccadilly Hall.*

Charles the First was inclined to leave the reclamation of the Fens to his subjects. Many proposals were made. That of Messrs. Tipper and Gason was recommended in 1626 by the Commissioners of Sewers as convenient for his Majesty's service. The petitioners prayed for a general grant to confer on them a privilege to drain all fresh and salt marshes and low-grounds throughout England and Wales. They had discovered a new mode of draining by means of sluices and locks, and undertook to lay 20,000 acres of land high and dry every year. This patent was worked on the Ouse at Hemingford and Houghton, in conjunction with corn mills.\* Their recompense was to be one fourth part of fresh marshland reclaimed, and three fourth parts of salt marshes, tithe free for seven years. The drainage of the Great Level was not appreciably affected by these works, which were more suitable for navigation purposes than for land drainage, which requires to be supported during an unproductive period by the resources of the wealthy. Sir Anthony Thomas, and divers wealthy men associated with him, proposed to take up the projects of

\* Gason obtained the first patent for lock drainage in 1618. Hemingford Mills are a favourite resort of artists. In 1628, Gason's patent was confirmed by Charles I. to Arnold Spencer; he to take toll 3d. a ton at sluices and locks between St. Neots and St. Ives, and, in 1638, he had a grant of the sole right of carriage of corn and coal to within 4 miles of Bedford. These grants are still in force. See A. G. v. Simpson, 1901, L. R., 2 Ch. 671.

the first Undertakers.\* To this end the King sent his royal letter to the Commissioners of Sewers, recommending his well beloved subject Sir Anthony and others his good friends:—

Charles R.

R<sup>t</sup>. trustie and right welbeloved cosin and Counsellor and trustie and welbeloved &c.†

Wee greete you well Whereas diverse our noble progenitors Kings and Quenes of this realme and diverse other persons of great qualitie have endeavoured by all wayes and meanes to accomlishe the drayninge of the ffenns And last our royall father undertooke the same but for want of perfecting a generall bargaine with the countrie this worthie desire heth been foreslowed Now know yee that we tendringe highlye the welfare of our loveinge subjects who are owners of any ffenn lands or grounds anoyed with fresh or salt water in the severall counties of Norf: Suff: Camb: I. of Ely, Hunts: Norht<sup>a</sup>. and Linc. as well on this side Boston as beyond have therefore thought fitt to recomend unto you our Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers in all the six counties and Isle of Ely afs<sup>d</sup>. our trustie and welbeloved subjects Sir Anthonie Thomas K<sup>t</sup>, John Worsopp, esq. Henrie Briggs, Mr. of Arts, and Hildebrande Prusen citizen and salter of London with diverse other their good friends undertakers and adventurers with them in this worthie designe of dreyninge the ffenns And we require you that you appointe a Generall Session of Sewers at a day certayne for the hithermoste great level of Huntingdon immediatly after the end of this Trinitie terme and likewise for the other levell onelie in the countie of Lincoln within 6 dayes after at Boston with the consent of the undertakers and adventurers appointed to attend you there, at which meeting we desire you to agree with the undertakers and to settle such or the like rate or tax on every acre of land as formerly hath bene, one in both levels payable within one month and at which day and place you shall receive of the undertakers fair propositions to the Countrie so as the undertakers doe draine the said drowned lands within the space of six yeares after the date hereof.

These Undertakers meant to make the fenmen find the funds to fight the invading floods, they meant to live on the enemy. This would not do for the Commissioners of the "hithermost" level, who very clearly stated their views to the King, and left Sir Anthony to go over the Welland and try his fortune in Eight Hundred Fen.

To the Kinges most Excellent Ma<sup>tie</sup>.

Most gracious and dread Sovereigne

Wee yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ties</sup> Comissioners of Sewers, amongst divers others, havinge received yo<sup>r</sup> highnes Comission for the Great Levell of Fenne lyinge in yo<sup>r</sup> counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridge with the Isle of Ely, Huntingdon, Northampton, and Lincoln and taken our oaths for the due execucion thereof Manie of us did at a Sess. of Sewers houlden at Wisbich uppon the 5<sup>th</sup> Aug. last take into o<sup>r</sup> serious consideracon the generall detriment wch yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> and this kingdome in generall and diverse corporacons both ecclesiasticall and temporall and diverse lordes owners and comoners have

\* Sir Anthony had a patent for draining the marshes near Cross Keys, Clenchwarton, Walton Dam, Wiberton, Rode, Freshton, Richmondfee, and Fishstaffe. Dom. Car. I. 307.

† June 16, 1629.

received for manie yeares past and yet doe suffer by occasion of the almost continual deluge of manie thousand acres of lande and likewise the lamentable decaye of navigation of the portes of Wisbich and Spaldinge and from thence upp into manie partes of those countries; and being desirous according unto yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ts</sup> said comission, yo<sup>r</sup> wholesome lawes in such case provided and o<sup>r</sup> duties and oathes, to finde out some speedie remedye for the said great mischiefes, wch will otherwise daylie growe into further extremities. Wee then tooke the legall courses to inform o<sup>r</sup> judgments partlye by personall view and survey and partly by the inquisition of Jurors of these severall partes, to whom wee gave time accordinge to the weight and importance of soe great a busines to retourne their presentments before us at Cambridge the 30<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>t</sup> last wch was accordingly performed, where being mett to prosecute the premisses in hope of a good issue of o<sup>r</sup> endeavours therein Sir Anthonie Thomas, K<sup>t</sup>. presented unto us yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ts</sup> gracious lres dated 16<sup>th</sup> June last wherein yo<sup>r</sup> highnes is pleased to declare yo<sup>r</sup> great and princely care to redeeme the kingdome in generall and especiallie these partes from those calamities under wch they have longe groaned wch in all dutifull thankfullnes wee received.

And yo<sup>r</sup> highnes therein recomendinge unto us the s<sup>d</sup> Sir Anthonie Thomas and others his partners, undertakers in the said worke of drayninge, in obedience unto yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ts</sup> said directions wee have had diverse publike conferences w<sup>th</sup> them. And because by yo<sup>r</sup> highnes Comission (to the true execucon whereof wee are bound by oath) wee are to taxe the owners of the surrounded grounds within the circuit of o<sup>r</sup> Comission accordinge to the severall quantities of their landes wch shall be made in o<sup>r</sup> judgment more profitable unto them by anie work of dreyninge we then desired the s<sup>d</sup> Sir Anthonie that he would acquainte us w<sup>th</sup> the particular project of his intended worke, that thereby we might judge how beneficial the same was like to prove and to what persons the same benefitt was to accrue, that the burthen of o<sup>r</sup> taxes might be laid only upon those that were to reape benefitt by his worke. But Sir Anthonie utterlie refused so to doe, unlesse we should first sett a taxe of tenn shillings on everye acre wch would admounte unto neare 150,000<sup>li</sup> as we suppose wch course we for o<sup>r</sup> partes held unwarrantable, the burthen of the charge beinge by lawe onely to bee imposed on them who are to receive benefitt by the worke.

In wch respects we had no legall power to contract w<sup>th</sup> them, nor to binde the countrie unto so unsupportable a charge. Besides we were at the same time offered to have the work performed for £35,000 by men whose judgments in such works are greatlie approved by us.

All wch we humblie tender unto yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ts</sup> consideracon humbly beseeching that we maybe left to followe yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ts</sup> said Comission o<sup>r</sup> oathes and yo<sup>r</sup> highnes lawes in such case provided wherein wee will not faile, according to o<sup>r</sup> bounden duties to doe yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> and the kingdom in generall and those partes in particular, o<sup>r</sup> best service according to the uttermost of o<sup>r</sup> skill, the power of y<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> granted and yo<sup>r</sup> lawes given unto us.

Yor Ma<sup>tie</sup> most loyal and obedient subjects

Cambridge

Fra: Bedford.

Westmorland.

1<sup>mo</sup> Octobris 1629.

John Carleton,	Miles Sandys,	Robert Bevill,
W <sup>m</sup> . Russell,	Tho Brooks,	John Cutts,
Jhon Watts,	Roger North,	Robert Balam,
Charles Balam,	John Wrokstede,	Thomas Towers,
Edwarde Buckworth,	John Pepys,	Thomas Castell,
F. Kyng.*		

\* Dom. Car. I., vol. 150, 2.

Francis, Earl of Bedford, now comes on the scene with a useful scheme and funds to make it effectual. In 1630, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden made a proposal to the Commissioners of Sewers for the drainage of the Great Level. "Upon a map or card he described the said fenny marsh, waste and surrounded grounds and the outfalls thereof by lines and other descriptions and also by writing expressed and set down to the Commissioners of Sewers what drains sasses sluices banks cuts and other works he intended,"\* but his financial resources were conjectural, and the "country" objected to leave an undertaking of a national importance to an alien born, so the Earl† supplanted the Dutchman in the character of Undertaker, retaining his services as engineer and adhering to his plans. By the contract of the 13 Jan., 1631, which is known as "Lynn Law," the Earl became sole "Undertaker" at his own charge to drain the Level in such manner as that it shall be fit for meadow or pasture, or arable, and by God's blessing he will fully finish the drainage within the compass of six years.‡

To accomplish the undertaking the Earl contracted with thirteen persons to join him in the adventure. By this deed, known as the "Indenture of Fourteen Parts," dated 20 Feb., 1631, the "Recompence" was divided into twenty whole shares, each of 4,000 acres, which, with 3,000 acres left to meet contingencies, and 12,000 surrendered to the King as a

\* Lynn Law recital. Vermuyden's preliminary contract was made to the Commissioners at Lynn, 1st Sept., 1630. Like the Earl, he stipulated for a recompence of 95,000 acres.

† Francis Russell, 4th Earl of Bedford, 1593-1641. In 1628, during the debates on the Petition of Right, he sided with the Commons and reported against the King's right to imprison. In 1631, he built Covent Garden, with the Square and St. Paul's Church. The drainage of the Great Level involved him in difficulties. He voted, 1640, that redress of grievance should precede supply. The ringleader of the reformers and undisputed leader of the popular party, his death was a misfortune for England, for he always advised moderate courses, being of opinion that the impending convulsion might be averted by a temperate and loyal movement.

‡ The Level contained about 305,000 acres, excluding lakes, meres, and receptacles, which were not to be accounted as any part of the "recompence." The 95,000 acres were set out by metes and bounds by the award of the Commissioners of Sewers, dated 12th Oct., 1637. This is known as St. Ives Law. However, the drainage works were by no means completed. According to Will: Hayward's survey of 1635, he certified the contents of the Fens by statute measure to be 32,668ac. 1.30, delivered on oath and in pursuance of Lynn Law, 13 Jan. A°. 6 Car. 1. Other districts have since been included in the Great Level.

voluntary and free will offering, dispose of the 95,000 acres. The royal share was subsequently diminished by 2,000 acres, which were granted to Richard Weston, Earl of Portland,\* thus reducing the King's Part,† so famous in Fen history, to 10,000 acres. The 80,000 acres, and the King's Part also, were subject to taxation, which might be imposed by the Commissioners of Sewers at the instance of the Conservators, who could not tax by their own authority, nor could the Commissioners of Sewers impose the tax on lands other than those reclaimed and reserved, pursuant to the Indenture of Fourteen Parts and St. Ives Law.

The Earl, and the thirteen co-adventurers concerned with him, were incorporated by royal charter, 13 March, 10 Car. I., as the Governors, Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the Society of the Conservators of the Fens. The fourteen Participants‡ were Francis, Earl of Bedford; Oliver, Earl of Bolingbroke;§ Edward, Lord Gorges;|| Sir Robert Heath,\*\* C. J. of Common Pleas; Sir Miles Sandys, bart.; Sir William Russell, bart.; Sir Robert Bevil; Sir Thomas Tyringham; Sir Philibert Vernatti, †† of Carleton, Yorks.; William Sammes, Dr. of Laws;

\* Richard Weston, 1st Baron Weston and K.G. 1633, Earl of Portland and Lord High Treasurer. 1634, Jerome, Earl of Portland and Lord Treasurer, ob: 1662. The Earl, during the Commonwealth, resided at Whittlesey. The site of the Earl's Decoy is marked in Flag Fen on Moore's map. Frances, Countess Dowager's, claim was charged in 1669 on the arrears of revenue of Ireland. In 1672 she petitioned for relief.

† The King's Part, "as butted and bounded" by St. Ives law, includes 3,220 acres in Borough Fen, and 5,716 acres about Whittlesey. The Earl's grant seems to have come out of the latter.

‡ The original Adventurers are generally so distinguished, and those who subsequently acquired interests in the undertaking are known as Adventurers.

§ St. John, 1580-1646, 4th Baron St. John of Bletsho and 1st Earl of Bolingbroke, 1624. He joined the popular party; refused to contribute to the forced loan in 1626; in 1640, signed the petition of the 12 Peers for a Parliament.

|| Sir Edward Gorges, bart. 1612; Baron Gorges of Dundalk, co. Louth, 1620. He was Surveyor General to the Bedford Level.

\*\* Sir R. Heath, 1575-1649; Recorder of London, 1618; Attorney General, 1625. He conducted the State prosecutions, Chief Justice of C. Pleas, 1631. He was with the King at Oxford in 1642, where he was appointed C. J. of King's Bench. He was excepted from pardon by Parliament, but he escaped to France. He died at Calais in 1649, and was buried in Brasted church, where a stately monument was erected by his son, who recovered his father's estate after the Restoration.

†† Sir Philibert Vernatti was one of the Participants in the scheme for draining Hatfield Chase. The failure of the Earl's undertaking obliged Sir P. V., in 1638, to obtain a royal protection from arrest, at the instance of a sub-contractor, J. B. Van Lemens. He petitioned again in 1639. The King's delays ruined him:—

Right Honourable,

The enclosed paper is my humble petition to his Matie I doe humbly entreate yt yr honor will be pleased to peruse ye same; the true contents may happilie induce yo to thinke yt this poore peticoner deserves some better fortune then utter destruction too unfortunate a recompence for eleven years labour and 100,000<sup>li</sup> cost bestowed with



Anthony Hammond ; Samuel Spalding ; Andrew Burrell ; and Sir Robert Lovett, of Lipscomb, Commissioner of Sewers.

The Conservators were soon at work about the Nene Outfall, and making ways or roads to enable them to get about the fens. Hard highways were wanted instead of summer tracks, but fenland roads are necessarily in the form of causeways, which are ever subsiding by compression of the porous subsoil, buoyant fabrics which lowered as the subterranean water was abstracted. The excavation of hard and impervious materials and conveyance, which had cost large sums for roads which sank and banks which slipped into the drains, was useless, till some constant condition of the internal drainage could be attained by regulating the outfalls. To accomplish this the resumption of the works at the Horse Shoe sluice was determined. For half a century this sluice had engaged the attention of the Commissioners of Sewers. They had decreed, and for a law established "that a strong substantial and sufficient sluice of stone and brick should be prepared builded made and placed at the Horseshoe beneath Wisbech at the general charge of all such whose waters shall draine by the same."\* This decree was made, pursuant to an intimation from the Privy Council :—

After or very hearty comendacons. Whereas upon sundry questions arising heretofore touching the draines in the Isle of Elie and the parts adjacent there was severall consultations had firstly by comittees and

reasonable good succes upon the recovering of so much waste and lost land as in time will be worth to King and countree a million of pounds p ann. for ever. I justlie expected in regard of my hasard trouble and charge a tribble returne for my disbursements and an honourable reward from his Matie for my constant endeavors and zeale in the pursuance of these incomparable improvements in lieu whereof by reason that our gracious King hath not proceeded hitherto to ye performance of his undertaking and mine unspeakable losses resulting from these unluckie delays I am reduced to begg protection for my preservation not as bankrupt to defraud, but as devested for a while by his Matie of such an estate as upon returne to me will proove over sufficient to pay all my debts with interest and damages. To grant this to an oppressed and distressed well deserving servant will be an act of justice as well as of grace and no dishonor to his Matie whose royal hand having strucke almost a destruction may justlie annoint againe to preservation the onelie meanes to shelter him from ruine and enable him to give entire and infallible satisfaction to all his creditors.

Filibert Vernatti. Sep. 3, 1639.

"Huntingdon Law" vested the Adventure lands in the King as sole Adventurer. This deprived Sir P. V. of 4,000 acres in the Great Level, and 2,000 in Deeping Fen. Sir Philibert, who was LL.D. of Leyden, was, in 1634, created baronet of Nova Scotia. Mr. Vernatti's son Anthony introduced the mode of lighting the streets of London with "lamp lights." Pat: 1685. Another son was Muster Master General in the Earl of Peterborough's army in Spain.

\* 31 May, 16 Jac. I. The perfecting of the "clow" for this sluice had been stopt in 1615 through want of funds.

afterward at this Boord in full Counsell about a twelvemonth since or some what more, where it was then thought fitt and ordered amongst other things by the consent of manie of the Comm<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers of the high and lowe countrye being at y<sup>t</sup> time here present that there sh<sup>d</sup> first be a sluice made at the Outfall of Wisbech River and after the making of the s<sup>d</sup> sluice that the said river sh<sup>d</sup> be dyched. Since wch time we are credibly informed that without the consent of any of the Comm<sup>rs</sup> w<sup>thin</sup> the hundred of Wisbich a Lawe is made for the dyching of the s<sup>d</sup> river and that at the particular charge alone of the hundred of Wisbich from Wisbich Bridge unto the Sea but no Lawe at all made for the Sluice. So are we also informed that the said river the last time it was dyched being enlarged from forty foote to three score foote wide at the charge of the high and lowe countryes, this late Lawe hath now imposed upon the s<sup>d</sup> hundred of Wisbich the diching of the River to the ancient breadth making noe mention of the s<sup>d</sup> added twenty foote. All wch proceedynts wee have taken into o<sup>r</sup> consideracon and well weighing the proceedings that have been both in matter of conveniency and equity, doe finde just cause to alter and vary from diverse points of those Lawes then made in this particular, wch we have now thought fitt to signify unto you and this w<sup>th</sup>all for yo<sup>r</sup> further direction, requiring you to take notice of it as an order of this Boorde; As first, That there shall be a sluice made at the Horshoee beneath Wisbich at a general charge of all that drayne that way. That likewise from the Horshoee to the fower Goates and as farr further as you shall think fitt shall be done at a general charge and not by the hundred of Wisbich onely, for that it is a new work and very beneficiall to manye countryes that the river from the Horshoee to Guyhurne Crosse shall be made three score foote broade as it was the last time it was dyched, whereof the third part being a new worke is to be done likewise at a general charge. And this wee hold to be most just and requisite for the better execution whereof we doe require you that at the next session of Sewers you cause a new Lawe to be made conformable to these our Orders and that the penalty of the Lawe of Sewers last made at Huntingdon and Stilton concerning works to be done in the Isle of Elie soonner maye be repealed and made voyd both in respect they doe crosse these Orders in many points and in regard of the shortness of time set downe in those Lawes for the performing of those workes. And that our former Order for making the Outfalls first perfect be generally observed in all works of Sewers. And so wee bid you very hartily farewell. ffrom the Court at Whitehall the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, 1618.

Yor very loving friendes

G: Cant., Fr. Bacon Canc.; T. Suffolke,  
F. Worcester, T. Arundell.

The specification for the works was as follows:—

Wisb. 20 May 1619. A Gen<sup>l</sup> Sess<sup>n</sup> of Sewers.

It is ordered and agreed y<sup>t</sup> ye Sluice shall be sett at ye Horshoe at ye charge of ye high and lowe contryes according to ye lords letters, viz. of all those lands wch doe or have or ought to drayne thereby and ye rating of ye high countryes is respected until next sessyon of Sewers. And y<sup>t</sup> ye sluice shall have thre tonnells, every tonnell to carry 10 foote waters, the threshold of every toonnell towards ye sea to be placed thre foote beneath ye bottom of ye ryver as it now is. The walls of ye toonnells up to ye turning of ye arch to be five foote and an halfe high; the toonnells to conteyn in length 30 foote; the toongm<sup>ns</sup> to conteyn in thicknes 2 foote; sea dores and landores to fitt their places; the walls on eyther syde of ye sluice to conteyn thicknes 4 foote. The splayes as well towards ye sea as in fresh water to be 30 foote long, with turning of 6 foote into ye land.

Lands taxed towards ye said works as followeth, on ye north syde of Wisbech 15,500 acres, on ye south syde of Wisebech and ye west syde of Elme 1,700 acres, and ye east side of Elme and Well 2,900 acres, Coldham and Wallersey 4,000 acres.

And it is ordered y<sup>t</sup> warrants be made to the dykereves of every place for collecon of ye money by ye 20 of June. And that Mathye Taylor esq<sup>r</sup>. shalbe survyor of all ye sayd monnyes. And y<sup>t</sup> all ye s<sup>d</sup> lands shall be rated and taxed at iiij<sup>d</sup> ye acre for ye s<sup>d</sup> sluice with wch monye materiales shall be provided by ye direcon of John Fincham esq<sup>r</sup>. who is appoynted surveyghor for ye said works.

The Horseshoe formed a new highway from Cambridgeshire to Norfolk, an important point. In 1644, the Parliament's Committee at Cambridge direct Col<sup>l</sup>. Val. Walton, deputy Governor of Lynn, to secure Horse-shoe pass for the security of Wisbech.\*

The Earl and the Conservators set about cutting the New River from the Horseshoe to the Outfall, to supersede the tortuous course of the old Nene, which forms the boundary between Norfolk and Cambridge.

The New Cutt at the outfall had been made in the 16th century, but, in 1621, a jury presented that it was very defective, and the old river at the New Cut mouth silted up so that no water passes that way,† and houses, which had been erected on the old embankments, so encroached on the narrow channel of the river that the Earl, in 1636, had to purchase several and demolish them in order to clear the outfall.

The plan of the New River indicates that the Earl's works were nearly complete. Delays were attributed to the heavy cost of material of embankment. It is certain that many of the Participants failed to contribute their share of the expenses incurred. This occasioned the complaints of the country, and riots by the poor commoners; but the general disturbance, caused by political differences as much as anything, arrested this undertaking, which was finished after 1650, when the Company entered into an agreement with Sir

\* Feb. 28, 1644. Before that the passage was by Walton Dam, described in 1635 as "a passage having been formerly a river now damde up being but a little creek and parts Norfolk and Lincolnshire."

† At Wisb., 20 June, 1621.

Cornelius Vermuyden.\* In 1649, "Mr. Dodson offers to engage £1,000 to make a river from the outfall at the Horse-shoee to Murroe Gate 50 feet wide for 5,000<sup>li</sup> with bank sufficient to save the country and to repair the same work for seven years after the same shall be made," and Mr. Hill's original estimate for the embanking of Wisbech Marshes, 2,880 rod in length, was for a sum of £2,336 13s. 4d.

A bank to be there sufficiently made and flagged and all the small creeks taken, may at the rate of 13s. 4d. p rodd cost.....	1920 . 0 . 0
The taking of the great Creeke .....	250 . 0 . 0
The laying of 3 small sluices of brick may cost.....	150 . 0 . 0
One hundred of Wheelebarrowes may cost 3s. 4d. apeece.....	16 . 13 . 4

The Conservators made themselves merry over their losses. They built Piccadilly Hall, † on the Norfolk bank of the New River, to match White Hall, ‡ which lay on the other side of the Nene. There was plenty of claret and sugar there, good comrades all, Maltravers§ and Gorges. The place was laid out like its famous namesake in the Metropolis, "a place called Piccadilly, a fair house of entertainment and gaming with handsome gravel walks with shade and there were an upper and a lower bowling green whither very many of the nobility and gentry of the best quality resorted both for exercise and conversation."|| This home of toads and reptiles was changed to gardens and quaint mazes, the oozy marsh to odorous woodland, pools to cascades, swamps to bowling

\* Jan., 1650. Signed by George Smith, clerk to the Company.

† Piccadilly Hall. This name occurs in a will in 1623. Higgins, a tailor, who built it, made a fortune by selling "piccadilles," large stiff collars much in vogue. Temp. Jac. I. See the plan with Art. 953.

May 30, 1636. G. Gerrard to Viscount Conway. "Austbiston's house is newly christened. It is called Shavers Hall, as other neighbouring places thereabout are nicknamed Tart Hall and Piccadill Hall. It came upon my Lord of Dunbar's losing £3,000 at one sitting, whereon they said a North Lord was 'shaved' there."

In 1657, Parliament was busy about the reformation of manners, with an eye on the idle fellows about Piccadilly, who go bowling and gambling, with much tipping too, about Piccadilly Hall and its green spaces.

‡ The Manor house was the home of the Everard's as early as 1300, and after of Everard Buckworth. Theophilus Buckworth, Bp. of Dromore, died at White-hall in 1652. Esther, widow of Sir John B., died possessed of the Hall in 1691. In 1703, Thomas and Eliz. B. sold the Manor to Robert Harris. The Hall, which was removed in 1807, is replaced by a farm house. Fen halls have not a baronial aspect, *e.g.*, Frog-hall, Willow-hall, Drainland-hall, Copt-hall, Crackling-hall, and other mo.

§ Harry Fred. Howard, Lord Maltravers.

|| Clarendon's Rebellion. Ed. 1826. I. 422.

greens and pleasant pastures. Loud from the Hall came the sound of revelling: "Now we're for the Parliament and now we're for the King."

Were there death in the cup,  
Here's a health to King Charles.\*

Alas! the Hall! the haunt of moonlight revellers, of it no memory remains; the quaint mazes have lost themselves, and the bowling greens are swallowed up in mud.†

L.G.

**1002.—The Fossdyke.**—There are few subjects of greater interest than the changes which have taken place in the course of ages in our lakes and rivers.

Some of the changes have taken place from natural causes, while others have taken place from the intervention of man.

In the County of Lincoln the Romans were largely responsible for the changes that have taken place.

The Carr Dyke, the Roman Bank, the Fossdyke, and the artificial watercourse running from Lincoln to Boston, and now called the Witham, are all due to them, and those works are the foundation of the drainage of the fens and their reclamation from the sea.

It is obvious that the Celts could not have been responsible for those works.

Although they inhabited this country for very many years, they were unacquainted with metals, and lived in what is now called "the stone age"; and during that age all their implements were of bone, stone, and flint.

\* Freeman—Cavalier songs.

† See the Plan given with Art. 953. The destruction of a bowling green at Wisbech is noticed by Holinshed in his Chronicle, Ed. 1577, p. 1854. "A.D. 1571. This year the fifth of October chanced a terrible tempest of wind and rayne both by sea and lande. In the county of Norfolk the sea brake in between Wisbiche and Walsoekene and at the Cross Keyes drowning eight towns and Jarmans and Stowe brigge. At the Crosse Keyes Inne the walls of the houses were broken downe. In the bishopricke of Ely, Wisbiche, Guyhorne, Parson Drove and Hobshouse, being an almshouse, were overflowen. In Wisbiche was a garden, a tennis play and a bowling alley walled about with bricke (which was worth 20<sup>l</sup> by yeare to the owner) was quite destroyed by the water." Disastrous floods occurred in 1613 and 1614. Through a breach at Terrington the sea broke in on Nov. 1st, 1613, drowning all Marshland and Wisbech. Many persons were drowned, and houses and cattle washed away to the value of £37,000. The Mayor of Lynn came to the rescue in boats with beer and food.

Some time before the first invasion of the Romans, A.D. 55, the Celts used bronze, which is a mixture of tin and copper, and that period of their existence is accordingly called "the bronze age."

Until their conquest by the Romans, however, the Celts never got beyond habitations made of holes in the ground, or caves in the rock, and were never capable of any great undertaking.

With the Romans, however, all things were changed. They occupied this country for about 400 years, and, having nothing to distract their attention, they devoted themselves to the gigantic works which still exist in this country.

After the Romans had left, about A.D. 426, the Saxons came; and, whereas the Romans had lived on friendly terms with the Celts, and had used them as servants in making their various works, with the Saxons a complete change took place.

The Saxons would not tolerate the Celts, and a long and bloody war took place between the two peoples, which resulted in the Celts being driven out of the Kingdom, and taking refuge in the counties of Devon and Cornwall, in Wales, and in the highlands of Scotland.

It is generally believed that this war lasted about 200 years, and it is obvious that during its existence the Saxons had no opportunity, or desire, of making any great drainage works.

Again, when the invasion of the Danes took place, about A.D. 750, another long and bloody war took place between them and the Saxons, which lasted until about A.D. 1013, when the peace of Wedmore put an end to the fighting.

It is obvious therefore that the Romans were the only people who had the leisure, the inclination, and the means of making these works, and that it is to them that we must give the credit.

As to the Fossdyke: the name must have been originally "Fossa," which is Roman, and the modern word "dyke" must have been added to Fossa.

I believe that the first time that the Fossdyke is mentioned in history is in Dugdale's *History of the Imbanking of the Fens*, where there is the following account :—

“In the 49<sup>th</sup> year of Edward the 3<sup>rd</sup> (the term being then kept at Lincoln) the Jurors of divers Wapentakes in that county did exhibit a presentment in the Court of King's Bench importing that a channel called the Fosdyke extending itself from the river of Trent at Torksey to the city of Lincoln, having been anciently open and full of water so that ships and boats loaded with victual and other vendible commodities did use to pass to and from Nottingham, York, Kingston upon Hull, and sundry other places and counties by the said river of Trent, and so by this channel to Lincoln, and from Lincoln to Boston to the great benefit of the city of Lincoln, and advantage of all tradesmen passing that way, as also of the whole county adjacent, was then choked up for want of cleansing and repair.”

It will be noticed that the navigation extended from Nottingham, from York, and from Kingston upon Hull to Torksey, from Torksey to Lincoln, and from Lincoln to Boston ; also that not only boats but also ships used the channel.

The Norman and Plantaganet Kings frequently held their Court at Lincoln, and so many statutes were passed there that they are called “The Statutes of Lincoln” to this day.

It will be noticed, too, that the Presentment makes no mention of the person who was liable to repair the channel ; and, probably for that reason, nothing appears to have been done.

It is worth while to mention that although the Fossdyke was embanked by the Romans, the valley through which it flowed was more or less covered with water.

Every place in that valley has either a Saxon or Danish name ; and, every name is an island. Thus, at Lincoln, we have “the Holmes,” meaning “the islands.” We then come to “the Carholme,” *i.e.*, “the island in the Fen.”

Proceeding west, we have Drinsea, Broad-Holm, Thorney, Far Holme, Torksey, and Holme, near Nottingham.

History tells us that Henry III. and other Monarchs improved the Fossdyke, but it was in such an unsatisfactory state that James I. granted it to the Corporation of Lincoln. In 1670, an Act of Parliament was passed for improving the navigation between Boston and the Trent, by which the Corporation of Lincoln had power to make the Witham and the Fossdyke navigable, and to cover the cost by levying rates. Under that Act the Corporation of Lincoln undertook the maintenance and repair of the Fossdyke; and power was granted to them to make reasonable rates and tolls for the carriage of goods by boat or vessel.

After that Act, the Corporation of Lincoln maintained and repaired the Fossdyke until the 18th of September, 1740, on which date the Corporation granted a lease to Mr. Ellison, of the Fossdyke, for 999 years, from Michaelmas, 1741.

On the 4th of August, 1845, a private Act of Parliament was passed, under which, among other things, power was granted to Richard Ellison, who was the trustee of the Ellison estates, to grant a lease of the Fossdyke navigation.

On the 21st of December, 1846, a lease was granted by Richard Ellison of the Fossdyke navigation to the Great Northern Railway Company, and in 1879 the Joint Committee of the Great Northern and Great Eastern Railway Companies became the joint lessees; as they are still.

It seems probable that before the Act of Charles II., the public had a right of user of the Fossdyke as a public highway, and had a right to fish.

Such rights, if they existed, were however extinguished by that Act; for the public had under the Act only a right of user on the terms of paying tolls, and the right of fishing was expressly reserved to the Crown.

At the present time the Joint Committee pay a rent under their lease, and recoup themselves by taking tolls.

Casthorpe, Grantham.

GEO. SILLS.



1003.—**Boston Fair** (952).—Another volume of the Calendars of the Letter-Books of the City of London, Letter-Book E, has just been issued by the direction of the Library Committee. It covers the period from 1314 to 1337. A few more references to Boston Fair are found in it.

At p. 230 is this entry, but without date; it is printed between documents dated 28 Aug., and 29 Sep., 1328:—

Writ to the Bailiffs of John of Brittany, Earl of Richmond, at St. Botolph's, that they molest not the citizens of London contrary to the King's charter which allowed them to have their own Wardens at all fairs in England, to determine all pleas arising at such fairs, except pleas of land and of the Crown.

The charter referred to is dated 6 March, 1 Edw. III.

In 1333, the City's Attorneys at Boston Fair (*ib.* p. 286) were John de Grantham, Benedict de Fulsham, Henry Darci, Andrew Aubrey, Thomas de Swanlond, John Hamond, Bartholomew Deumars, William de Cave, Richard de Lyncoln, Michael de Caustone, John de Eynesham, Thomas de Wyncestre, junior, William de Branghyng, Ralph de Lenne, and John Lovekyn.

Of these fifteen, nine were re-appointed in 1335 (*ib.* p. 291). And in the following year the same nine, with the addition of John Coton (*ib.* p. 303).

In the paper by Mr. Thompson in the *Early Commerce of Boston*, referred to in our former article, are these passages relating to the Fair at this date:—

A commission was issued in 1331 (5 Edward III.) to inquire respecting the fair held at Boston. Boston was evidently a place of great commercial importance in 1336, when a patent grant of protection was issued for a great number of German merchants, and fourteen vessels, coming to the fair of St. Botolph.

ED.

1004.—**The Liberty of Peterborough** (989).—*Offenders restored to the Abbot's Gaol. Inspeximus. The Commissions. Keepers of the Peace. The Bailiff. Felony and Misdemeanour.*

The prisoners restored to the Abbot's jurisdiction were tried at the Liberty Gaol delivery at Michaelmas, 9 Henry IV., A.D. 1408. The result is recorded thus:—\*

Po: se: Qs. nec ret.

Philippus Skynner de Oundell in dicta Gaole existens eo quod ipse indicatus est coram prefatis custodibus pacis eo quod ipse simul cum aliis ignotis die Jovis in festo apostolorum Simonis et Jude anno regni regis Henrici iii<sup>ij</sup>ti post conquestum octavo Robertum Hamond de Oundell apud Oundell in quodam loco vocato Pekkesle felonice interfecit et murderavit.

Puts himself on the Country. Not Guilty. Nor did he fly from justice.

Philipp Skinner of Oundle in the said gaol because he was indicted before the said keepers of the peace for that he with others unknown on Thursday in the feast of the Apostles Simon and Jude in the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of Henry the fourth of that name after the conquest feloniously slew and murdered Robert Hamond of Oundle at Oundle in a place called Pekkesley.

Po: se: Delibata quia principal delib<sup>s</sup>. Delib<sup>s</sup> ut supra.

Matilda que fuit uxor predicti Roberti Hamond et Johannes Lawe filius ejusdem Matilde in dicta gaola existentes eo quod ipsi indicati sunt coram prefatis custodibus pacis eo quod ipsi die veneris proximo post festum apostolorum Simonis et Jude anno regni regis Henrici iii<sup>ij</sup>ti post conquestum octavo predictum Philippum Skynner apud Oundell felonice receperunt scientes ipsum Philippum esse felo domini Regis et fecisse feloniam et murderum predictum Et de eo quod prefati Matilda et Johannes Lawe fuerunt conscientes cum prefati Philippo die et anno supradictis ad feloniam et murderum predictum faciendum.

Put themselves on the Country. Discharged because the principal was discharged. Discharged for same cause.

Matilda who was wife of the said Robert Hamond and John Lawe her son being in the said gaol because they were indicted before the said keepers of the peace for that they on Friday next after the feast of the apostles Simon and Jude in the 8<sup>th</sup> year of King Henry IV<sup>th</sup> of that name after the conquest

\* Reg: Deeping f. 113. The enrolment of the record is in Latin, pursuant to the Act of 36 Edw. III., c. 15, A.D. 1362. Before that Act passed, Norman French was the language of the Courts. Po: se: is the contraction for *ponit se super patriam*, i.e., demands to be tried by a jury of his countrymen, and that was of the hundred in which he dwelt, until the County Juries Act, 1825, extended the panel to the county at large. Qs., quietus, i.e., acquitted. Nec ret., nec retraxit, i.e., he did not withdraw from pursuit of justice; the flight to avoid arrest being a crime. The origin of "culprit" derives rather from the Norman French than from Latin. The Officer of the Court formerly took the plea of the prisoner in Norman French, and in response to a plea of not guilty, replied *Qu'il parroit*, i.e., let it appear if thou art not guilty. The Latin entry is found in this form, *Culpabilis es, paratus sum verificare*. This word soon came into common use. Archbp. Sancroft, in 1688, before the King and Council begins his defence, "Sir, I stand here a culprit."

feloniously harboured the said Philip Skinner knowing that he the said Philip was a felon of the King and had committed the foresaid felony and murder And for that the said Matilda and John Lawe were privy with the said Philip on the day and year aforesaid to the committing of the foresaid felony and murder.

The discharge of accessories to a crime necessarily follows the acquittal of the principal offender: but the accessories might have been afterwards indicted as principals. Formerly an accessory could not be tried till after the conviction of the principal: but that rule was changed by 24 and 25 Vict. c. 94, "The Accessories and Abettors Act, 1861."

The practice of confirming royal charters at the commencement of each reign has fallen into desuetude. It fed the royal exchequer with good fees, and enabled the King to retract privileges which his predecessors had granted, and reseize franchises where abuse was apparent.\* The petition of Prelates and Earls against that extension of the prerogative of the Crown, occasioned the Act of 13 Edw. I. c. 7, A.D. 1285, which fixed the form of confirmation thus:—"Inspeximus cartam donacionis concessionis vel confirmacionis," and enacted that the charter was to be transcribed word for word without addition or diminution. The enrolment of the inspeximus charters has preserved much valuable history of Saxon and Norman times.† King Edgar's charter for the Abbot of Burgh is recited in Roman characters, but in other instances the Saxon characters are transcribed on the Norman rolls.

The charter of King Henry VII. recites that of 2 Edw. IV., which authorised the Abbot to appoint justices to deliver the

\* The Abbot of Crowland lost his gaol in this way; per Hussey, T. T., 20 Edw. IV., who was a Lincolnshire squire.—Franchise reseiser.—"En mon pays l'Abbe de Crowland avoit un gaole en qe les prisoners fuerent emprisons et purceo qe a un foits il retaigne hommes queux fuerent acquites de felony et auxi averont pay lour gages et fees le Roy reseisie le gaol a tous jours et ce fuit pur misuser son franchise."

† The stamp duty in a charter of exemplification or constat is £5. It was a practice to obtain a patent of inspeximus when a charter had been destroyed by misadventure. Pat. 17, Edw. III., Pt. 2 m. 14, in favour of the Convent of Peterborough, is an exemplification of a patent partially burned through careless custody. It was an acknowledgment of a subsidy of one hundred pounds by way of loan to meet the urgent needs of the King's expedition across the Channel.

Liberty gaol, the same justices to have powers of justices of gaol delivery commissioned by letters patent, but thereafter the Abbot was authorised to appoint justices of the peace, and they were invested with powers of commissioners of gaol delivery.\* Thus they ousted the justices commissioned for the shire, and the Liberty bailiff being invested with powers of a sheriff, ousted that officer just as the Coroner for the hundred of Nassaburgh excluded the county coroner. This made an end of intrusion by the meddling sheriff, but the Liberty justices were charged as the King's justices and the proclamation at the opening of the court must have been, "O yes O yes my lords the King's justices do strictly charge all manner of persons to keep silence while the King's commission or proclamation is read." The Act of 27 Henry VIII. c. 24, for recontinuing liberties heretofore taken from the Crown, united and knit to the Crown, and for the appointment of all justices by letters patent under the great seal, was wanted long before 1535. It did not curtail the authority of the justices of the peace for the Liberty to exercise the privileges of the franchise in as ample manner as justices of gaol delivery for the shire.†

\* Patent 20 March, 2 Edw. IV., Act, 1462, complementary to the charter of 6 June, 38 Hy. VI., A.D. 1460.

† Sec. 14. This Act united the privilege to the Crown, whereas the Act of 32 Hy. VIII., c. 29, A.D. 1540, recited that the Act for the Dissolution of Monasteries did not declare what officers were to exercise franchises, and declared that all franchises and temporal jurisdictions used by former owners of Religious Houses were revived and vested in the King and his heirs. An Act of revivor, keeping alive the Liberty till the See was erected and the franchise, followed the regrant of the hundred to the Bishop. Clerks could not deliver the gaol, because conviction for felony involved the death penalty. In 1299, an Act provided that where one of the justices of assize was a clerk, a discreet knight of the shire was to be associated with the lay justice to deliver the gaol. After 1660, the Court was opened by the reading of King Charles II.'s proclamation against vicious, debauched, and profane persons, who, in pretence of regard to the King, revile and threaten others, or spend their lives in taverns and tipping houses drinking his health. A similar proclamation of Queen Victoria was read after 1860, for the encouragement of piety and virtue, and for preventing and punishing of vice, profaneness, and immorality. Keepers of the peace were first chosen in 1327 from the most worthy men in the county, but, men of small estate having crept in the commission, the possession of £20 a year in land estate was fixed as a qualification in 1439, and that income qualified for the office of a county justice till 1732, when "the men of mean estate" induced Parliament to raise the qualifying estate to £100 a year from land, and in 1875 the occupancy of a dwelling house assessed to the inhabited house duty in the sum of £100 was made equivalent to the land qualification. The Act of Ric. II., pursuant to which "the great unpaid" received a wage of 4s. a day and the clerk 2s. a day, was not repealed till 1855. Justices for liberties, cities, and boroughs are exempt from property qualification. An Act of 1388 stopped the practice of putting in the commission Stewards of any manor.

The Commission of the Peace for the county has two assignments, (I) to keep and cause to be kept the King's peace, to enforce all ordinances and statutes, and to take sureties for good behaviour; (II) to enquire by jurors and to hear and determine. This is the assignment which empowers the justices of peace to hear indictments at Quarter Sessions.\*

The Commission of oyer and terminer confers authority to try prisoners indicted for treasons, murders, and all manner of felonies and misdemeanours; by that of gaol delivery the justices assigned for the delivery are authorised to deliver every prisoner in gaol whose committal is tested for trial there.† All was fish that came to the net of the Liberty Justices; but the Abbot's bailiffs were not wholly free from the meshes of the Sheriff, for under his supervision the hangings were conducted, before the charter of Henry VII. empowered the Abbot to appoint a Liberty Bailiff, who should have authority to issue summonses, to make distrainments and returns, to execute writs, precepts, warrants, and all other processes and deliveries appertaining to the function of justices of gaol delivery and of justices of the peace. Thereafter the Bailiff could bring up the prisoners with their indictments, and to him the warrants for execution of judgment of death were

\* Since the Crown Office Act, 1877, came into force, the famous *quorum* clause has been omitted. See *Merry Wives*, I. i. :—

*Slender.* In the county of Gloster, justice of peace, and *coram*.

*Shallow.* Ay, cousin Slender, and *Cust-alorum*.

*Slender.* Ay, and *ratolorum* too.

Justice Shallow confuses *coram*, in the presence of, with the *quorum*, and asserts that he was *Custos rotulorum*. In the old commissions poisoning, enchantment, sorcery, magic arts, forestallings, ingrossings, extortions, and unlawful assemblies are named as offences. All these are replaced by the words "crimes, trespasses, and other offences" in the new commission. The Police Acts have relieved Justices of their duties relating to the keeping of the peace. By a Statutory Rule of 22 Feb., 1878, the same form of county commission is to be used for liberties of the Cinque Ports, Peterborough, Ripon, the Tower of London, Westminster, the Isle of Ely, and the town and county of Haverfordwest. All the old English shires are not identical with counties, e.g., Richmondshire, Riponshire, and Hallamshire. Haverfordwest is a county of a town with a lord-lieutenant of its own, and the town justices act under the county commission. The Liberty of the Tower was united to the County of London by an Order in Council, in 1894.

† This commission confers no authority to try prisoners directed by statute to be dealt with by the court of Quarter Sessions. *R. v. Ward*, 15 Cox C.C. 321. The Treason Act of 1351 specifies five heads of treason, to compass the death of the King, to levy war, &c. Petit treason was where a woman kills her husband, a clerk his Bishop, &c. In 1415, clipping and filing money was made treason; see K. Henry V. at Agincourt. "It is no English treason to cut French crowns; and to-morrow the King himself will be a clipper." In 1530, to kill by poisoning was made treason. The convict was boiled to death without benefit of clergy.

directed.\* And in the 15th century most crimes were felonies.

The distinction between felonies and misdemeanours is not so clear as it should be. Felony imports some offence against the King's peace, offering some act of violence. If the offence comprises no external act of violence whereof the Common Law could conclude it against the peace, it is a misdemeanour, such as secret acts and fraud. Cromwell spoke well on this muddle in his speech to Parliament: "There is a general grievance in the nation. It is the law. To hang a man for sixpence, threepence, I know not what, to hang for a trifle and pardon murder is through the ill framing of the law. I have known in my experience abominable murderers quitted and to see men lose their lives for petty matters. This is a thing that God will reckon for."

A prisoner charged with felony has twenty peremptory challenges, or may challenge any number for cause, or the array for partiality in the sheriff. The indictment is preferred before the grand jury, of at least twelve, to inquire, by examination of the witnesses, whether the proof be sufficient to put the prisoner on his trial by the petty jury; as they determine they hand down to the court *True Bill*, or, *No True Bill*.† Thus there is an inquest and a trial by at least 24 men before the prisoner can be convicted. L. G.

\* See Art. 787, Vol. IV., *F. N. & Q.* The patent of justices assigned to deliver the Liberty gaol, in 1425, directs the Sheriff of Northamptonshire to bring up the prisoners for trial before them. Clause 2 of Henry VII.'s charter relates to the authority of the Bailiff. The Bailiff, like the Sheriff, is responsible for minor officers, and was for preservation of peace within the limits of the Liberty. He was not obliged to attend upon justices of assize or gaol delivery for the shire: but in franchises, where the bailiff has been so used to attend, he has to assist the sheriff at all courts of gaol delivery for the execution of prisoners. Sheriffs' Act, 1887, sec. 35.

† See Clarence's questions to his murderers, *Richard III.*, I. iv.

"Where is the evidence that doth accuse me?"

What lawful quest hath given their verdict up

Unto the frowning judge . . . ?"

The "quest" here refers to the petit-jury of life and death, the sworn twelve. The precept to the Sheriff directed him "to cause to come 24 good and law-worthy men of each hundred in his bailiwick and 24 Knights and other honest and law-worthy men from the county at large." Outlaws, aliens, &c., were not law-worthy. Challenges might be for the shire or the hundred. The Liberty is under the old law relating to jurors. The grand jury, chosen from the county at large, are sworn to diligently inquire and true presentment make; the King's counsel and their own to keep secret, &c. They have nothing to do with the defence. The witnesses were, before 1856, sworn in open court, but since in presence of the grand jurors.







1005.—**Drainage of the Great Level** (No. 10).—*Riots. Fen-fowl. A Witch. The Pro's and Cons of Reclamation. Holme Fen. Mr. Cromwell of Ely, Lord of the Fens. Charles I. Sole Adventurer.*—In 1637 the Conservators were surrounded with difficulties. Funds were wanted to retrieve their position and to relieve the condition of the “surrounded grounds.” The Commoners, seeing that their lands were the worse for the drainage works, meant to have their commons again. Riots occurred at Holme, at Ely, and at Wereham. Strong teams of campers, a hundred a side, swept banks and fences away. They must eat. The Conservators had deceived the country; their cows were starving, and the wild-fowl were scared away. For the fowler and fisher there was nothing to catch: hence the following petition:—

To the <sup>rt.</sup> hon. the Earle of Bedford and ors the Conservators of the Fenns in the County of Norff. and the residue of the G<sup>t</sup> Levell.

The humble peticon of Anthony Larkin, John Clarke and 8 others, inhabitants of Wretton in county of Norf:

With all humilitie they shewe unto yor honors that they being persons of weake estates and capacities amongst other inhabitants of Wereham Stoke cu Wretton all intercomoners in their ffenns the 16 of Maye last going in procession about ye bounds of their ffenns in orderly manner as usually wee have done there were 5 persons digging in our said ffenns without directions as wee conceived being contrary as well to Lynn Lawe made 13 Jan. 6<sup>o</sup> Car. R. as to the lawe of allotments assigned by yor honors at St Ives and Wisbich betwixt 27 June and 11 August 12<sup>o</sup> Car. R. in the hardes and in such an inconvenient place where wee lay our shott nets for fowle as would be the utter undoeing of the s<sup>d</sup> three townships if they had gone on and consisting of 735 souls wch subsist merely of the ffenns and principally get their ffewell and livelyhood from thence and is a principall place for his Ma<sup>tie</sup> and yor honors provision of ffowle insomuch as they have often sent up weekely 3 horse loads at a tyme, being worth unto us 100<sup>li</sup> p ann towards the maintenance of the said inhabitants wch by this their digging they should be deprived of whereupon the s<sup>d</sup> diggers being demanded who sett them on worke they said a gent. but who he was they knew not nor by what authority they did soe digg. It was then only requested that they would forbear whereupon haveing formerly taken up their tooles they peaceably departed ffor wch yor honors peticoners being 10 in number are comanded to attend the Counsell table this day to ansr the same.

To sue for our discharge.

The above is dated 21 June, 1637.

Warrants were soon out for the arrest of the delinquents. Dr. Sammes\* attributed the prevailing discontent to witchery, but hungry stomachs have no patience. He wrote to the Council:—

\* William Sammes, LL.D. He is commemorated by Sammes Cut.

After getting the delinquents together we found them soe miserable poore and base that they were not meete to be presented before the lords; therefore upon ye examinacon of them we have committed one of them who was the first mover of this mutinie to the prison at Wisbeach, who is by her neighbors esteemed a witch, to which opinion the messengers adheare for they takeinge boate neere her house were bitterly accursed by her and soone after a strong man, the waterman, was stricken with such a lamentable crick in his backe that he was constrained to get helpe. The most part of theis rebels live upon the almes of the parish therefore we thought fit that some exemplary punishment should be inflicted upon them heere.

In 1636 the reasons of the fenmen against the draining of the fens, and the answers of the Adventurers had been put into writing. These, taken with the failure of the scheme, might have enlightened the Doctor about the cause of the mutiny.\*

AGAINST.—Item that in every common fenn towne the greater parte of the inhabitants having neyther lands of their owne nor in ferme and livinge onely by ye fennes beinge noe way else able to putt bread into their mowths muste with their whole chardge of children eyther live on almes begg or starve.

FOR.—If ye lives of them that live onely uppon fishe fowle reede flagg and turve bee observed it wilbe found that for ye one half and more of ye yere they live merelie idlie and have noe meanes to sett them on worke wch is the mere cause of their miserye and where they speed well one day in fishinge or fowlinge they often misse in half a dozen together. But for ye matter of fishing and fowling yt wilbe little diminished by ye drayning and for their turve and reede yt may be much incresed therby and so for meanes to sett them on worke wilbe infinitlie incresed thereby.

AGAINST.—Item ther is never an acre of fenn grounde but affordeth more comodytye to ye common weale then pasture of xx<sup>s</sup> ye acre doth if all fowle and fishe wch is taken in England were valued wch though it be not all taken in ye fens yet is it bread fedd and mayntayned for ye most parte therein together with ye infinite worth of the reeds, fodder, thacke, turves, flaggs, hassocks, segg, fleggweed for fleggeren collors, mattweede for churches, chambers, beddes and many other fenn comodytyes of greate use both in towne and countrie.

FOR.—This is a grosse and palpable error for of reede fitt for thacke there will not be found that is fitt for use 1000 acres and ye lyke for turves. And for all ye reste ye beggerlye liefs that ye poore idle wretches doe leade doe manifeste of what comodyty it is to them and ye expence that is herd of drayning and what comodytyes have growen thereby to ye poore that are industrious doth confound yt. It is true that for some fewe acres of reede may be worth xx<sup>s</sup> or xiijs iiijd<sup>d</sup> ye acre yerelie and soe of ye turve; but what is that to ye reste of ye fens wch are a 100 times as much and yet that reede and turve shalbe continued to them still.

\* S. P. Dom, Car. I., 339, 27.

In 1632, when the dike reeves of the Conservators first appeared, no one was pleased. Thomas Freise relates his experience when he went to drive Holme Fen.\*

At the time of the drivinge the same ffenn Mr. Castle of Glatton a justice of peace came into the ffenn and told him that none of his cattell should be driven thence yet the overseer goinge on with his drift he appointed two of his men to stand in the gapp where the cattell should passe and kept them from goinge out and he stood by while a great many women and men with sithes and pitchforkes gave many threateninge wordes that they would lett out the gutts of anie one that should drive theyr ffennes and while they turned backe the cattell and he did not repress theyr disorder nor spake to them to desist. And since that tyme the commoners in the same ffenn have mowed the moste parte of the fodder there and have put a stocke of sheepe into it.

The overseer of the dikes ends his report with this notification :—

It is comonly reported by the Comoners in Ely ffenns and the ffenns adjoyninge that Mr. Cromwell of Ely hath undertaken, they payinge him a groat for every cove they have upon the commons to hold the drayners in suite of lawe for five yeares and that in the meane time they should enjoy every foote of theyr commons.†

Mr. Cromwell had all along been opposed to the drainers ; and in 1638, at the meeting at Huntingdon, he was, as head of the malcontents in the Fen business, styled Lord of the Fens : and he abetted the factions who with clamours withstood the Commissioners : and in the House of Commons he supported the petition of the commoners of Somersham against the Bill for the Queen's Jointure.‡

Date 1641. May.

See Com. Int: Jul. 2, 24.

Our lands and inheritances are taken from us by pretence of lawes of sewers wherein the Comiss<sup>rs</sup> proceede without inquisition by jury but by there owne viewe, who are the Comiss<sup>rs</sup> and parties deeply interested. They take the one halfe of our comons and ffenn grounds for supposed drayninge the rest, wch they make and leave much worse then they founde it. And yet expect melioracon from our severalls. They bring our severalls under tax, which are worth a marke to twenty shills: the acre p ann. Other our severalls they vyolently take from us (that were never tax) to digg their dreynes thorough them ageynst the owners consent and pay not any composicon for them. They distreine and sell our goods that come uppon the grounde, they have taken from us and will not obey replevins. If we

\* Glatton and Holme Fen, adjacent to Whittlesey Mere, contained about 2,000 acres; 120 commoners in 1620. The Turf Fen is described as a "swimming mosse" of 400 acres, worth 2s. an acre. Sedge Fen and Alder-Fen worth 1s. 6d. an acre. The Beaches, Burrow-holts, and Deep-lands, 200 acres, worth 8s. an acre; the soil a clay.

† S.P. Car. I., 230, 50.

‡ Comns Jul. 19 Feb. 1640. Ordered that the petition of the inhabitants and ancient commoners of Sommersham be referred to the Committee for the Queen's Bill. Mr. Hyde, who was chairman of a Committee to inquire about the inclosure of Somersham Commons, speaks of the tempestuous conduct of O. Cromwell, who ordered the witnesses and petitioners, and enlarged on what they said with great passion, "a rude kind of people who interrupted with great clamour." Clar. Life, I. 78.

proceede at law for tryal of our titles, we are sued pursevanted (*sic*) ymprisoned and are ordered by the lords of the Councell not to proceed, but at Councell Boarde or before Comiss<sup>rs</sup> of Sewers. Our consents are extorted to make us subscribe to their proceedings,\* and if we gaynesay they ymprison us to fit matters to there ends. Our ancyeut Comiss<sup>rs</sup> have bene putt oute and fforeyners adventurers and participants are put into comission. Our salt marshes wch have been enjoyed by us and our ancestors hundreds of yeares are taken from us and supposed to be gayned from the sea. Our comons are taken from us under pretence of Comission to ymprove for the Kinge as lord of the soyle wherein they take more than halfe, the possession whereof is settled to the King by Exchequer Injuncoons afore the cause be hearde, wch when its done the cause is delayed.

Public events put an end to the stir in the Commons, which gave the Fenmen some hope of remedial measures, but the King, hearing of the difficulties of the Conservators and the hardships of the people, moved in the business. Touching this, Sir J. Bankes gives an account of his audience by Charles I. :—

“When I waited upon his Mat<sup>y</sup> at Greenwich touching the business of the Great Levell his Mat<sup>y</sup> took notice of divers complaints that men and whole townships and hundreds were excluded from the possession of their lands and commons whose grounds were not drayned and thereupon gave us directions to restore such men to their possession until the lands were adjudged drayned which directions we have observed ; yet so we admit none to this grace but such as make due proof that their grounds are not bettered by the Earl of Bedford’s drayning and that they have the speciall order of the court for it and that they shall not pull downe anie hedges ditches or fences but make a gappe and enter in a peaceable manner. This order is pursuant to the decree made touching the Great Levell 19 Jac: when King James was undertaker and hath given great contentment to the several counties.”

A few days after this Charles I. declared himself sole Adventurer :—

July 23, 1638. Theobalds.

And because his Mat<sup>ie</sup> intends to see this great work of the Level prosecuted according to his first princely design in such manner as may have just regard to the perfecting the same with most public and general advantage to the whole Fens: he is further pleased to declare himself the Adventurer as well of Deeping-fen as the Great Level.

\* See note on Hetley’s case before the Privy Council.

The Royal Adventurer had formed a plan for the reclamation of the Fens; new plantations of people, with ample privileges were to be located. An eminent town was to be built in the midst of the Level, on the site of the little village called Manea, to be called Charlemont; the design whereof the King drew himself, intending to have made a navigable stream from thence to the river Ouse.\*

The terms on which the undertaking of the Conservators was transferred to the King, were notified to the Commissioners of Sewers by the King's letters patent. These will be given in the next paper.

L.G.

**1006.—Daniel Defoe.**—In 1894, Mr. Thomas Wright published a Life of Daniel Defoe, in which it was for the first time demonstrated that the Defoes, or Foes, as they were originally called, were of Fenland descent. Some previous biographers have stated that the novelist's grandfather lived at Elton in Northamptonshire: others, finding there was no such place, assigned his home to Elton in Huntingdonshire, just on the borders of the former county. When preparing his life Mr. Wright applied to the Rector of Elton for any information, and was by him referred to the Editor of *Fenland Notes and Queries*, who was then living a few miles from Peterborough. In the course of his researches for Mr. Wright in the District Probate Office, the Editor discovered that the real home of the family was at Etton, in Northamptonshire, a place just within the borders of the Fenland as they are given in Mr. Miller's Map in his Hand-book.

Mr. Wright holds that Foe, Faux, Vaux, and Devereux, are all variations of the same name, and that the family originally came from Flanders: and he considers that Daniel, the writer, was aware of his Flemish extraction, and that this is rendered almost certain by a passage in his *Giving Alms no Charity*, "where he lauds the wisdom of Elizabeth in encouraging the

\* Dugdale, p. 415.

Flemings, and mentions the names of a number of Flemish families, though, for reasons best known to himself, he does not give his own."

It was not till about 1697 that the future author of *Robinson Crusoe*, changed his name to De Foe. He was the first of the family to do so. And it was not till some time later that he adopted the single word Defoe. There are still Foes remaining within a few miles of Etton.\* The following extracts from Mr. Wright's book bear upon the Foes at Etton. After stating that the indexes of the Archdeaconry Court of Hunts, and those of the Consistory Court of Ely, had been searched in vain, the author speaks of the successful result of investigating the records of another court.

It is not, however, till the inquirer arr. es among the Northants books that he finds himself in clover. In these, between the years 1608 and 1723, are eleven Foes, all of them of Etton or the neighbouring villages:—Foe, Margaret; Foe, Henry; Foe, Robert; *Foe, Daniel*; Foe, Thomas; Foe, Mathews; Foe, Thomas; Foe, William; Foe, Daniel; Foe, Luke (or Lucy); Foe, Godfry.

The first Daniel was the novelist's grandfather. He was in good circumstances, and, according to his grandson, kept a pack of hounds (*Review*, Vol. vii., Preface).

Mr. Foe's dogs, owing to a whim of his huntsman's, bore names suggested by the Civil War. There was a Roundhead and a Cavalier, a Goring and a Waller; in fact, "all the generals of both armies were hounds in his pack."

Mr. Daniel Foe's will, preserved in the Consistory Court of Northampton (E. 65), is dated 3rd March, 1630, and was proved 28th April, 1631. The first date we should now write 3rd March, 163 $\frac{0}{4}$ ; therefore the will was proved only eight weeks after it was signed. The testator leaves to a Mr. Temple, 10s.; to the church, 10s.; "to the poore of the parish," 10s.; to "Daniel foe," his eldest son, "four score pounds" at age of 21; to Mary Foe, his daughter, £50 at marriage or at age of 21; to Henry Foe, his son, £50, at age of 21; to James foe, his son, £50, at age of 21. Residue to his "loving wife, Rose Foe," whom he appoints sole executrix. The portions of any child or children who died before they received their legacies were to be equally divided among the survivors.

It may be urged that the money left by "Daniel foe" does not look like keeping a pack of hounds, but let it be noted that we are not told the amount of the "residue" left to his "loving wife," or whether the testator earlier in life was in better circumstances. From his having left a trifle to Etton Church, we may presume that Daniel Foe was a Churchman.

Of James Foe (father of the novelist), who, having been baptised May 13, 1630, was probably not more than twelve months old on the death of his father, we learn nothing more till many years later.

\* When I left Maxey there was an old couple of the name living in the village; I understand both are now dead.—Ed.

Daniel, James's elder brother, continued to live at Etton, where he died in 1647, leaving an only daughter, Mary.

Mr. Wright points out that the Poes did not live at Woodcroft, "as all entries in the register from there are so entered." ED.

**1007.—French Register at Thorney (933).**—The Huguenot Society of London has issued this register under the editorship of our esteemed correspondent, Mr. Henry Peet, F.S.A. He contributes a preface of great value, of such interest, indeed, that most readers will be disposed to wish that many more pages could have been devoted to a subject which the writer has studied so thoroughly.

A highly appreciative notice of this publication appeared in *The Liverpool Daily Post* for 31 July last, from which we quote the latter part. After speaking of the troubles encountered by the Huguenot settlers who were engaged in the reclamation of the Level of Hatfield Chase, "the brute force of a jealous and unfriendly people," and how the "stilt-walkers", as the natives are called, organised no less than fourteen risings against the reclaimers in the course of three years, defaced the chapel at Sandtoft, demolished the village that had grown up, and pulled up the flood-gates; the article proceeds:—

It must be said, however, that this was the conduct of the ignorant country people. Among the more intelligent Englishmen there was generous recognition of the good work that was being done by the strangers. The Earl of Bedford, on all occasions from first to last, extended to the refugees a kindly welcome, and it is of interest to note that his descendant, the present Duke of Bedford, has lent the MSS on which this book is based, and has also defrayed the cost of publication. A considerable number of the refugees in the north, not in a body, it would seem, but individually, shook the dust of Axholme off their feet and betook themselves to the Bedford Level, the reclamation of which, also, was in the hands of Vermuyden. Thus the settlement at Thorney came to be made, and there, although their troubles were not at an end, they suffered less from lawlessness and disorder because the sparse population did not allow combination and organised attacks. The drainage of the Great Bedford Level began in 1630, and by 1652 40,000 acres of land had been brought under cultivation. Shortly afterwards an Ordinance, made by Cromwell, granting to foreigners who settled in the reclaimed lands full rights of English citizenship, induced many Protestant refugees from Flanders to betake themselves there. It was a hard life that they came to.

Many who invested their capital in the new land lost it there, and in some cases the land was forfeited for arrears of rates and taxes. The story shows how mistaken is the idea that the Huguenots, in coming to England, left their troubles behind them, and that between this country and the immigrants the indebtedness is altogether on their side. They laboured and provided work for many labourers, and added wealth to the country and acres of rich pasture lands and many cattle. The social influence of the Huguenots has been immense, and they have done their share in moulding the history of the country as soldiers and statesmen. Their records are well worthy of preservation, and we must feel and acknowledge our obligations to Mr. Peet and the other Fellows of the Huguenot Society for their labours of love, which are also labours of very wide utility.

**1008.—Wansford Bridge.**—Although a few miles above the Fenland district, yet the bridge at Wansford has had so intimate a connection with the navigation of the Nene, that we feel no apology is necessary for giving some account of it.

In the reign of Edward III. there were several grants of pontage for the good men of Wansford to enable them to sustain and repair the fabric of the bridge which lies in the route of the Great North Road, and spans the Nene from Stibbington in Huntingdonshire, on the south bank, to Wansford in Northamptonshire. "Pontage" confers the right to demand specified tolls from those who pass over a bridge with merchandise. A grant, dated 24 Sept., 1334, recites that Wansford bridge was ruinous, and to enable the men of that town to repair it they were licensed for three years to take the tolls following:—

For a horse-load (*summagio*) of corn of any kind, a farthing: a horse or ox,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a hide, fresh, salt or tanned,  $\frac{1}{4}^d$ : five pigs,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : 10 sheep, goats, or swine,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a hundred fleeces,  $1^d$ : a quarter of salt,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a load of cloth,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : for a broad cloth worth 40<sup>s</sup>,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : for a cart-load of cloth,  $3^d$ : for a hundred of worsted cloths,\*  $2^d$ : for a hundred of woven linen of Dylesham,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : for a parcel of silken stuff,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : 100 salt mullets and dried fish,  $2^d$ : a cart-load of sea fish,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a salmon,  $\frac{1}{4}^d$ : 12 lampreys,  $1^d$ : 1000

\* Centena pannorum de Worchstede. From Worsted, a village near Norwich, this woollen yarn derives its name. It was colonised by Flemings in the reign of Henry II. In 1335, privileges were granted to weavers and workers of cloth coming to England, and an Act forbade the export of wool. Then a crowd of Flemish workmen passed over to England; the wool was on one side of the channel, the workmen on the other. Cloth was then made in England, but it had to be sent to Flanders to be dyed. In 1330, a fardel of cloth of Worstede was worth £80. In 1465, John Paston writes to his sister "for two clue of worsted for doblets." P. Letters, No. 528.



herrings,  $\frac{1}{4}^d$ : a load of honey,  $1^d$ : a sack of wool,  $2^d$ : a cart-load of bark,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a cart-load of lead,  $2^d$ : a cask of wine,  $2^d$ : a caldron of sea-coal,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a load of iron,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a hundred horse-shoe nails,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a quarter of woad,  $2^d$ : 2000 of onions,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : 100 boards,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : a mill-stone,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ : 100 faggots,  $\frac{1}{4}^d$ : 1000 turves,  $\frac{1}{4}^d$ : for a parcel of any merchandise exceeding  $10^s$  in value,  $\frac{1}{2}^d$ .

The North Road between Wansford and Stamford was not always safe for the merchants who came over this bridge, or over the ford. In 1273 an inquisition was holden touching a robbery of merchandise, to the value of 1000 marks, from Reyner de Furne,\* a Florentine merchant: and six years later a jury at Northampton made a presentment against the Prioress of S. Michael's without Stamford, who had been digging pits in the royal road, and carrying stone away, so that robbers hid therein and did much damage. The bridge was more than the men of Wansford could manage. In 1581 the Privy Council sent their mandate to the sheriffs of Huntingdon and Northampton, to assess the inhabitants of those counties towards the re-edification of the bridge.†

A precepte to raise money for Walmesforde Bridge.

These are to require you and in the Quenes Majesties name straightly to commande you that presently upon receipt hereof you collecte and gather within your townshippe the summe of xi<sup>s</sup> towards the fynishinge of Walmesforde Bridge as also for the payment of the workmen there and the same to be delyvered at Northampton the vij day of July by eight of the clocke in the morninge at the sign of the Coke unto Sir Edw. Montague or his depositee not failinge herein as you will answer to the contrarie at your perill

The bridge suffered much from Neneland water in 1571. Holinshed, p. 1854, refers to it: "Wantford bridge being very strong, of eight arches in length, had three of the arches broken and clean carried away." Nene bridges are few and far between. The Bishop of Ely had pontage for reparation of a bridge at Wisbech, the bailiffs and good men of Oundle towards Ashton bridge in 1382, and Thrapston men for the bridge there in A.D. 1382.‡ Abbot Godfrey's bridge at Peterborough was the subject of Art. 717. L.G.

\* Hundred Rolls: 7 Edw. I., m. 21. d., *de purprestura*.

† Acts of Privy Council, 14 June, 1581. By the statute of Bridges, 22 Hy. VIII., the county became liable to repair.

‡ Pat. Rolls, 5 Ric. II., pt. 2, m. 15.

**1009.—The Fen Ablaze.**—A graphic account appeared in *The Peterborough Advertiser* of 11 July, 1903, describing a great fire in Woodwalton Fen. Some bracken and turf, on the estate of Major Mowbray, was first discovered to be on fire on the evening of Thursday, 2 July. Most vigorous efforts were made by the workmen and others to subdue the flames, which were “shooting out in all directions, greedily devouring everything in their path, the turf being as dry as tinder.” But their efforts, though untiring, were of no avail. By noon on Saturday the Huntingdon Fire Brigade arrived. At this time the land “covering something over ten acres, was a mass of fire, and dense volumes of blinding smoke were steadily rolling heavenwards.” Working incessantly all through the afternoon and night, still with little effect, the whole of Sunday was taken up with spade work, “cutting and turning over the smouldering turf, and in this manner the fire was stamped out over a considerable area of the estate.” The pumpers unfortunately became tired out, and dissatisfied, and on Monday morning left altogether. Others were however soon found to take their place. The wind becoming stronger the flames broke out again in many places, and it became necessary to send for the Ramsey Brigade. With great difficulty the heavy steamer succeeded in getting to the spot, and in course of time the fire was extinguished.

The scene of this extraordinary conflagration is situated about seven or eight miles from Ramsey, and is a picturesque and rugged stretch of uncultivated fen land. For years it has been the centre of a large turf cutting industry; men of the working classes with a little capital behind them hiring lots and employing men to cut, dry, and stack the turfs in readiness to be conveyed away by barges to the retailers. The turfs are cut in oblongs and then packed lightly in stacks in order that they may dry. At stated intervals the turfs are turned over in order to complete the drying process. At the time of the outbreak there was a great number of stacks of dried turfs ready for the market, but, happily, with one exception, all these escaped damage. Had the fire caught these, and they would have burnt like tinder, the loss of the respective owners would have been very great. The one stack destroyed contained about 15,000 turfs, and was the property of Mr. Chas. Kilby, of Ramsey Heights. The stack was worth something about £15, and we understand that the owner is insured. About 24 years ago a similar fire occurred in the vicinity. It was believed to have originated through some ashes thrown into an ashpit igniting the dry turf. At that time the old Ramsey Volunteer Fire Brigade put in an appearance and conquered the flames.

1010.—**Knightly Families in the Fens.**—Dr. William Moore, formerly Incumbent of Spalding and Prebendary of Lincoln, gives a list of the old families of consideration that have disappeared from the Fens. He speaks, as will be seen, of the “old knightly families:” but whether he means anything more than that some of the members of them had been knights does not appear. The quotation is from the paper in “The Great Level of the Fens,” among the Transactions of the Associated Architectural Societies, i. 335.

Soon after the Commonwealth, all the old knightly families that had dwelt in the fens, drawn together by the learned society of the monasteries, had either become extinct, or had removed to the high country; soon no trace of them was left save the sites of their moated houses, their tombs in the churches, and their arms in the painted windows.

The ancient family of de Multon of Moulton, of whom Thomas de Multon was one of the barons attesting Magna Charta, had become extinct:—“Their Castle in the Fenne,” saith Leland, “halfe a mile from Quapelode, whereof some small part yet standith, the Lord Fitzwalter hath it now.”

The Welbys of Moulton and Gedney, who settled in these parts on the marriage of Sir William Welby with Maud, the co-heir of Sir John de Moulton, in the twelfth century, and were resident at Moulton, in knightly honour, for fifteen generations after, “of great note and power in Holland”—the Gedney branch became extinct, while the Moulton family removed to Denton.

The Irbys, of Whaplode, ancestors of the Lord Boston, passed to Northamptonshire.

The Custs, of Pinchbeck, who were resident before 1338, (when Sir Peter Cust died and was buried there,) transferred themselves to Belton.

The Wimberleys, of Spalding, of whom Dr. Gilbert Wimberley was one of the chaplains of King Charles, (deprived in the rebellion of his most valuable library,) disappeared from the level.

The Herons, of Cressy Hall, in Surfleet, (the ancient seat successively of the Cressys, the Markhams, the Herons, and now the property of the Smiths; and where the Lady Margaret, mother of Henry VII., was entertained) became extinct in 1736.

The Ogles, of Pinchbeck, and the Gamlyns and Oldfields of Spalding, became extinct.

The Walpoles, of Pinchbeck, went to Dunston.

The honoured name of Beridge yet remains, of old landed descent, in Elloe.

Notes of members of every one of these families have at different times appeared in our pages, and the names occur repeatedly in our indexes. In some cases long accounts have been given, as of the Herons, and the Moultons.

The disappearance of the families, as described by Dr. Moore, must be taken to mean their disappearance as landed proprietors from their ancient homes, because the names themselves have by no means all vanished from the Fens, as our pages abundantly testify. Sometimes the bearers of these names were in very good positions. There was Sir Anthony Irby in the Parts of Holland in 1643 (ii. 107); John Irby, of Sutterton, is called "Gent." in 1640 (iii. 27); John Oldfeild, of Spalding, was fined, as a delinquent, in 1646, £1390 (iv. 374), so he must have been a man of substance; Thomas Welby was a sequestrator for the Parts of Holland in 1643 (ii. 107); Samuel and Richard Cust were among the Magistrates of Holland in 1650 (ii. 46).

The list also is very far from being exhaustive, as it manifestly includes only those families whose estates were in the neighbourhood of Spalding.

Since the paper was written the last name given, Beridge, which was then yet remaining, has itself disappeared; the Algarkirk property is still in the family, but the owner does not bear the old name.

ED.

1011.—**The Liberty of Peterborough (1004).—Benefit of Clergy.**

The old calendars are full of quaint history concerning benefit of clergy, homicides *per infortuniam, aut se defendentes*, &c. Clerks in holy orders were tried by the jury, and if found guilty were delivered to the Bishop of the diocese to which they belonged for purgation. The canonical trial was by a jury of twelve clerks, and the purgation was by oath of innocence, verified by twelve compurgators who testified that they believed in the innocence of the prisoner. In A.D. 1434 John Sherman, a clerk, charged with stealing ten yards of green cloth ("grene of lyre") of the value of ten shillings, the goods of Stephen Cherpound, was found guilty; and the commissary of the Archdeacon of Northampton, with letters of the

Bishop of Lincoln, claimed liberation for transfer to the Bishop's prison at Banbury.\* In the margin of the calendar is entered "Lib. prisone Epi."

Earlier instances occur in 1303 and 1352, where the proceedings are well illustrated. Juries may err: and in the latter case the clerk, Thomas Blome, established his innocence to the satisfaction of the Bishop, so the King sent his writ for the restoration of the convict's goods.

Pro Thoma Blome      Rex vicecomiti Northantonie salutem. Cum Thomas  
de Burgo.      Blome de Burgo Sancti Petri clericus coram Justi-  
   ciariis nostris ad gaolam nostram de Burgo Sancti  
Petri deliberandis assignatis supra crimine furti unius equi furati apud  
Pappele precii quinque solidorum et de diversis pannis ibidem furatis ad  
valenciam trium solidorum de Thoma de Pappelle nuper indicata, et ad  
requisicionem venerabilis patris H. Episcopi Lincolnensis loci diocesani  
per eosdem justiciarios eidem Episcopo juxta privilegium clericale prout  
moris est liberatus, innocenciam suam supra crimine predicto coram  
eodem Episcopo legitime purgavit, sicut idem Episcopus per literas suas  
patentes nobis significavit, tibi precipimus quod eidem Thome terras et  
tenementa bona et catalla sua ea occasione in manum nostram capta, si ea  
occasione et non alia in manum nostram existant, nisi fugam fecerit  
occasione furti predicti, sine dilacione restituas de gracia nostra speciali.  
Teste Rege apud Wodestok decimo die Julii. (Cl. R. 6 Edw. III., m 18.)

In this case Thomas Blome, of Peterborough, clerk, had been charged with stealing a horse worth five shillings, and certain cloth worth three shillings, and had been delivered to the Bishop of Lincoln according to custom, and the Bishop had certified by his letters patent that the said Thomas Blome had satisfactorily purged his innocence; whereupon the King directed that all his lands, tenements, goods, and chattels, which had by occasion of the charge of theft fallen into the King's hands, should be without delay restored, provided he had not attempted to escape.

The liberation of Robert Castre and Robert Kelsey, A.D. 1303, is fully enrolled in the Register of Abbot Godfrey, fo. 78.

Deliberacio Gaole facta apud Burgum die mercurii proximo post festum Sancti Mathie Apostoli Anno regni regis Edwardi tricesimo secundo

\* An Act of 31 Edw. I. relates to the levy of fines imposed for the escape of clerks convict from the prison of their Ordinary. Capital punishment of a clerk in holy orders is preceded, in the Roman Church, by degradation. It was declared in 1351 (25 Edw. III. St. 6. c. 4) that the privilege of holy church was abused by secular justices who remanded clerks convict to gaol to meet other charges. "Let them hereafter be arraigned once for all."

per dominos Henricum Spigurnel et Hugonem Wake justiciarios per breve domini Regis supradicti quod breve remanet penes dictos justiciarios ad hoc assignatos Coram quibus Robertus de Castre et Robertus de Kelseye clericus de latrocinio indictati et per eosdem justiciarios inculpati et per inquisitionem convicti Domino Godefrido Abbati de Burgo Sancti Petri ad exigendum clericos coram eisdem justiciariis potestatem habent fuerunt liberati ut patet per comissionem domini Lincolnensis Episcopi que sequitur:

Universis ad quos presentes littere pervenerint Johannes permissione divina Lincolnensis Episcopus Salutem in omni salvacone. Universitati vestre notum facimus per presentes quod ad exigendum et recipiendum vice et auctoritate nostra secundum libertatem ecclesiasticam et regni consuetudinem approbatam quoscumque clericos seu alios viros ecclesiasticos pro quocumque crimine seu transgressione captos et apud Burgum incarceratos et incarcerandos a quibuscumque justiciariis domini Regis seu aliis ipsos liberandi habentibus potestatem ut de eis fiat in foro ecclesiastico quod secundum canonicas constitutiones fuerit faciendum dilectis in Christo filiis Domino Abbati de Burgo Sancti Petri et Sacriste ejusdem loci conjunctim et divisim vices nostras comitamus cum cohercionis canonice potestate. In cujus rei testimonium litteras nostras Domino Abbati et Sacriste predictis fieri fecimus has patentes. Datum apud Lydington Kalendis Martii Anno Domini MCCC tertio. Qui quidem Robertus et Robertus ab eodem Abbate quasi in custodia episcopi supradicti admissi in custodia ejusdem Abbatis extiterunt a die supradicto usque diem Jovis in festo Sancti Gregorii proxime sequente quo die Episcopus supradictus deliberacionem dictorum clericorum per Rogerum de Weng clericum suum et per litteram sequentem petiit:

Johannes permissione divina Lincolnensis Episcopus dilecto in Christo filio Abbati de Burgo Sancti Petri vel Sacriste loci ejusdem salutem gratiam et benedictionem. Ad recipiendum a vobis Robertum de Castre et Robertum de Kelleseye clericos nuper apud Burgum certis de causis incarceratos vobisque tanquam commissariis nostris in hac parte per justiciarios domini Regis adjudicandum in foro ecclesiastico nostro noiti liberatos Rogerum de Weng clericum nostrum ad vos specialiter destinamus vos rogantes quatenus dictum Rogerum facta sibi liberatione dictarum personarum securum conductum usque ad locum competentem prout vos ipsi decreveritis faciatis habere. Valete. Datum apud Lydington septimo Idus Martii.

Cujus petitioni resistere nolentes ipsos Robertum et Robertum securum conductum usque Staunford facere dicto Rogero deliberatos fecimus. In presencia Willelmi de Wodeford de Burgo, Johannis Gesthalle de eadem, Radulfi de Berkhamstede, Willelmi Wak, Alexandri le Gaunter, et Johannis le Meillour, qui eos admisit sub pena qua decebat.

In this case the incriminated clerks were charged before two Justices, Henry Spigurnel and Hugh Wake, with robbery, and found guilty, and then delivered to Abbot Godfrey, of Peterborough, who, in conjunction with the Sacrist of the Abbey, held a commission from the Bishop of Lincoln to deal with the case. This commission states that the Bishop commits to the Abbot and Sacrist all his rights, "with power of canonical compulsion," with respect to "claiming and receiving in our place and by our authority, according to

ecclesiastical liberty and the approved custom of the realm, whatsoever clerks or other ecclesiastics taken for any crime or trespass, and imprisoned or to be imprisoned at Peterborough, by any of the King's Justices or others, so that whatever ought to be done concerning the accused might be done in the ecclesiastical court." The two clerks remained in the custody of the Abbot from the Wednesday after the feast of S. Matthew till the Thursday after the feast of S. Gregory, that is, from 25 Sept., 1303 till 14 March following, on which day the Bishop demanded their liberation, appointing his clerk Roger Weng to receive them, and directing the Abbot and Sacrist to give them a safe conduct to such suitable place as they might select. "Unwilling to resist this petition" the two Roberts were safely delivered to the said Roger at Stamford.

The "clergy" of clerks convict had to be supported by production of letters of orders or a certificate of the Bishop. The abuse of this privilege was prolonged for centuries. An Act in A.D. 1274-5, 3 Ed. I. c. 2, refers to the delivery of clerks without due purgation. None under the degree of sub-deacon was within the privilege. An Act of A.D. 1531, 23 Hy. VIII., c. 1, provided for the degradation of convict clerks by the Bishop, and their transfer to the King's officers for execution.\* The "benefit of clergy," which prevailed in favour of "lettered persons," was extended by merciful construction of the Judges to laymen. That this should be so, where the death penalty attached to theft, was reasonable; but convicted murderers were within the benefit. The Act, 4 Hy. VII., c. 13, A.D. 1488, recites that divers persons upon trust of this privilege had been bold to commit murder, and provides that such persons should be allowed clergy but once, and be marked on the brawn of the left thumb with M; or T, where convict of other felonies.\* It was the practice for the Ordinary of Assize, a deputy of the Bishop, to attend the judges, to provide the book for malefactors, and to judge

\* By 18 Eliz., c. 7, A.D. 1576, clerks convict were not to be delivered to the Ordinary but burnt in the hand and set at large.

whether they read or not; but the judge turned to any passage. To read as a clerk must have been to read the latin vulgate. Then he prayed for the benefit to be allowed by the Court. The entry in the calendar is: *Petit librum, legit et brit: tra T.* "He demands the book, reads, and is branded with the letter T." The passage read by the convict was not always the same; but the first verse of the 51st Psalm, *Miserere mei*, was often selected; and this is known as "the neck verse." This remarkable practice occasioned an Act in 1706, 5 Anne, c. 6, which recites "forasmuch as when any person is convicted of felony within the benefit of clergy upon his prayer to have the benefit thereof allowed him it hath been used to administer a book to him to try whether he can read as a clerk which by experience is found to be of no use": and enacts that without any reading the prisoner shall be punished as a clerk convict. This reduced the practice to an absurdity, but the privilege was not abolished till A.D. 1827 by 7 and 8 Geo. IV., c. 28, sec. 6. This Act provided that convicts for felony were not to suffer death unless for some felony excluded from the "benefit" before 1827.† Witches do not occur in the Liberty calendars. The offence of witchcraft was not known to the common law of England.‡

L.G.

**1012.—Chantry at Holbeach.**—Among some manuscripts purchased by Mr. G. C. Caster, of Peterborough, at the sale of the late Sir Thomas Phillipps, Bart., of Middle Hill, Worcester, is an indenture of the purchase of S. Mary in Holbeach, dated 17 Nov., 1608. The vendors were Francis

\* By 10 and 11 W. 3, c. 23, s. 6, the brand was to be on the cheek. This seemed unfashionable; and the Act was repealed by 5 Anne, c. 6. In case of notorious murders Acts have been passed to take away the benefit of clergy from the offenders: e.g., 23 Philip and Mary, c. xvii., A.D. 1555, from Benedict Smithe for the murder of Giles Rufforde at Alconbury. A woman was not allowed "benefit": for a first offence she was branded on the left thumb with T.

† Shakespere has many references to "clergy." Jack Cade accuses Lord Say: "Thou hast put poor men in prison and because they could not read hast hanged them." Hy. VI., Pt. 2. IV. 7; and his rogues are described as "saved by the book." By an Act of 1 E. VI., c. 12, a lord of parliament was allowed clergy as a clerk convict, though he could not read, and without burnings.

‡ It was made a felony by 33 Hy. VIII., c. 8. The burning of Margaret Jourdain, the witch of Eye, after sentence and relapse, seems to have been without warrant of law. In 2 Hy. VI., ii, 3, the Duchess of Gloucester is condemned "For sins such as by God's book are adjudged to death."



Phelipps and Richard Moore, of London, gentlemen, and Mrs. Ann Glover, of London, widow. The deed is in Latin, and recites that for a certain sum of money, amount not stated, the vendors have sold all that their Chantry of S. Mary (*Cantariam beate Marie*) in Holbeche, co. Linc., and all those messuages, lands, tenements, cottages, meadows, pastures, commons, and all other profits, commodities, advantages, emoluments, and hereditaments belonging to it, situate in the towns and fields of Holbeche, Holbecherne,, and Fleete, formerly in the several tenures of William Davye, John Hayton, William Robinson, James Pigott, John Clarke, John Laighton, John Bennett, William Wright, and the Chaplain of the said Chantry, and now or lately in the tenure of John Poste or his assigns, at a rental of £5 3s. 1½d., besides 6s. 6½d., payable annually to certain persons out of premises in Holbeche: all which were lately part of the possessions of the lately dissolved Chantry. Besides messuages the deed further mentions mills, houses, edifices, structures, barns, dovecots, orchards, gardens, furze, heather, marsh, woods, underwood, and trees. The premises were to be held by Ann Glover and her heirs of the King and his successors as of his Manor of Eastgrenewich, co. Kent, by fealty in full socage and not by military service (*per fidelitatem tantum in libero et Communi Soccagio et non in capite nec per servicium militare*), on the annual payment of the rent aforesaid, £5 3s. 1½d., to the receipt of the Exchequer, in equal payments at Lady Day and Michaelmas; and Ann Glover undertook the annual payment of 6s. 6½d. due to certain persons out of the premises. The usual guarantees follow, at great length. The deed was signed and delivered in the presence of George Neekley (?), Nicholas Foxley, John Negus, and Richard Gawdren.

ED.

1013.—**Wicken Fen** (848).—It is distressing to read the following communication made by a correspondent of *The Standard*, and published in that paper on 9 June last. It is

sincerely to be hoped that the fire has not destroyed the entire productive power of the part burnt, and that in course of time the sedge and undergrowth will re-appear, and the fen regain its old charm. It will be sad indeed if the fear expressed in the last paragraph is realised.

Some three years since there was a great outcry against the threatened disappearance of Wicken Fen, the last of the great East Anglian Fenland. *The Standard* took the matter up, and the result was that ardent entomologists and botanists, as well as those interested in the preservation of places of historic interest, purchased the property. Among those who secured large pieces of this virgin fenland was Mr. George H. Verrall, and he and the other owners have generously thrown the preserved portions open to the public. On Sunday afternoon, about five o'clock, some men saw flames and a dense smoke arising from an area of about twenty acres, recently acquired by Mr. Verrall. A strong wind was blowing at the time, and although the villagers endeavoured to beat out the fire, they were unsuccessful, and the whole twenty acres of sedge and undergrowth were destroyed. This fen is the home of the marsh-fern, whose fine fronds creep among the coarse sedge; the bedstraw, the marsh marigold, a rare aster, and other flowering plants. But it is the entomologist who finds the greatest prizes, for Wicken Fen is the only spot in England where the swallow-tail, perhaps the most beautiful of British butterflies, can be seen in anything like profusion, although even there it is by no means so plentiful as formerly. Among the other butterflies which may be found there occasionally are the rare sphinx or clearwing, and the gorgeous scarlet tiger. The commoner habitants of this expanse of flat marshy land include the brown lappet and the crimson underwing moth, and beautiful-hued dragon-flies. Now and again a green snake may be seen writhing through the rank herbage, dunlin, sandpipers, teal, wild duck, harriers, hawks, snipe, and occasionally a hooper swan, make their appearance among the tall reeds and black peat with dark watercourses stagnating through its midst. At this time of the year the Fen is covered with verdure like a prairie, and the undergrowth being dry, it burned rapidly, until at one time there was nearly a quarter of a mile of fire, so that the destruction of natural life must have been terrible to contemplate. It is feared that this disastrous loss of rare insects, &c., will, as the fire was due either to vandalism or gross carelessness of some holiday-maker, be the means of closing this charming haunt, of a host of enthusiastic naturalists, to the general public.

A few days later another correspondent, deploring the fire, said he could hardly believe that intentional wilfulness was the cause, and that this great loss "to all lovers of Nature in its wildness" was more probably due to great carelessness on the part of someone smoking. "Surely those who enjoy the benefit, and often privilege, of wild country, might show their gratitude by taking every care in its treatment, but those who travel much frequently notice this is not the case."

In *The Daily Graphic* of 10 Nov., some remarks on the occurrence are headed "A Threatened Sanctuary":—

It is to be hoped that the fire which has just destroyed some twenty acres of Wicken Fen will bring home the necessity of preserving that unique bit of England. It may be said to be the only genuine piece of fenland left in the shape in which Hereward the Wake knew it. This piece of 200 acres may be called the last of old England, as he was the last of the English, for there are there a considerable number of English plants and insects, and perhaps one or two birds, which are now to be found in no other bit of English country. The scientific as well as historic value of this virgin wood and fen is considerable, and it ought not to be exposed to the unconscious iconoclasm which is associated with the mere holiday maker. The place may well be reserved for the student, and he in turn may recognise the value of the sanctuary by observing much and pocketing nothing.

A few days later four University men from Cambridge called on Mr. Verrall, and said that one of them had accidentally thrown away an unspent match, and that the sedge where it was thrown had at once caught fire and blazed freely; and that being wholly unable to put it out they had all run away. They "lost their heads," or else, as they admitted, they ought to have stopped and made more vigorous efforts to arrest the flames. They undertook to repay Mr. Verrall any loss or expense incurred by their action, and with this undertaking Mr. Verrall expressed himself satisfied.

**1014.—Manor of Newhall, Pinchbeck.**—The following is another paper from Sir Thomas Phillipps' collections:—

This Indenture made the xxvij<sup>th</sup> daie of June in the Sevententhe yere of the reigne of our sovereigne lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Quene of Englande Fraunce and Irelande defender of the Faith &c Between John Mendam citizen and mercer of London on thone partie, And the right honorable Edwarde Erle of Lyncolne lorde highe admirall of Englande and of the most noble order of the garter knight on thother partie Wytnessethe That where the saide Erle by his Indenture of bargaine and Sale inrolled in the Quenes maiesties highe Courte of Chauncery and bearinge date the nynetenthe daie of June in the Sixtente yere of the reigne of our saide sovereigne lady abovesaide for and in consideracon of the somme of Fyve hundred poundes of lawfull money of Englande to him the saide Erle well and truly paide by the saide John Mendam, hathe geven graunted bargained & solde unto the saide John Mendam and to his heires and assignes for ever, All that the mannor of Newhall and Capitall messuage called Newhall w<sup>th</sup> their appurtenaunces in the parishe of Pinchebecke in the Countye of Lyncolne, and all and singular mannors messuags lands Tenements Rents Revercions, and hereditaments w<sup>th</sup> their appurtenaunces whatsoever w<sup>ch</sup> the saide Erle had or ought to have had in the saide parishe of Pynchbecke or elsewhere in the saide county of Lyncolne called or known by the name or names of Newhall or mannor of Newhall then in the tenure of one

Gedney or his assignes, And all & singular Courts Leetes liberties priviledgs Jurisdiccions prehemynences whatsoever w<sup>ch</sup> the saide Erle then

had or ought to have had in the premisses or any parte thereof, In whiche Indenture is conteyned a proviso that yf the said Erle his heires executors administrators or assignes had paide or caused to have ben paide to the saide John Mendam his certen Attorney executors or administrators the somme of Fyve hundred poundes of lawfull money of Englande in the Twentithe daie of December last past before the date of this Indenture, That then and from thensfourthe the guifte graunte bargain and Sale made of the saide mannor and other premisses w<sup>th</sup> their appurtenaunces by the saide former Indenture and all covenants and articles conteyned in the saide Indenture on the parte of the saide Erle and his heires to be holden and kept and all bondes made to the saide Erle for the performance thereof shoulde be clerely voide and of none effecte, As by the saide former Indenture amongst diverse other covenants therein conteyned will plainly appeare W<sup>ch</sup> saide somme of Fyve hundred poundes or any parte thereof the saide Erle or any other for him hathe not yet paide to the saide John Mendam his executors or assignes but have made clere defaulte thereof by meanes whereof the saide Mannor and premisses may be claymed forfeyted to the saide John Mendam and his heires yet nevertheles the said John Mendam covenantithe and grauntithe for him his heires executors and administrators to and w<sup>th</sup> the saide Erle his heires executors and administrators and every of them by these presents, That yf the same Erle his heires executors administrators or assignes or any of them do well and truly paie or cause to be paide to the saide John Mendam his certen Attorney executors or administrators at the nowe mansion house of the saide John Mendam scituate in the parishe of Saint Mary Mounthawlte benethe the fyshestreate in London the somme of Fyve hundred poundes of lawfull money of Englande in the Twentithe daie of December next comminge after the date of these presents Betwene the houres of eight of the clock in the forenoone and three of the clock in the afternoone of the same daie That then and from thensfourthe the guifte graunt bargain and sale made of the saide mannor and other the premisses w<sup>th</sup> their appurtenaunces by the saide former Indenture and all covenants and articles therein conteyned on the part of the saide Erle and his heires to be holden and kept and all bondes made for the performance thereof shalbe clerely voide and of none effecte, And that then and from thensfourthe yt shall and may be lawfull to and for the saide Erle his heires and assignes into all and singuler the saide Mannor Messuage landes Tenements and other the premisses w<sup>th</sup> their appurtenaunces to reenter and the same to have againe and repossede as in his or their former estate, Any thinge in the saide former Indenture conteyned or specified to the contrary thereof notw<sup>th</sup>standinge. And that then and from the tyme of suche payement made of the saide somme of Fyve hundred poundes and every parte thereof to the saide John Mendam his heires executors or assignes on the saide Twentithe daie of December next comminge as aforesaide the said John Mendam and his heires shalbe and stande seized of and in the saide Mannor and other the premisses w<sup>th</sup> their appurtenaunces to and for thonly use and behoofe of the saide Erle and of his heires and assignes for ever And the saide John Mendam for him his heires executors and administrators dothe covenante and graunte to and w<sup>th</sup> the saide Erle his heires executors and administrators and every of them by these presents, That he the saide John Mendam his heires executors and administrators at the reasonable request and costes and charge in the lawe of the saide Erle his heires and assignes at all times duringe Sixe monethes next after the saide paiement of the saide Fyve hundred poundes had and made in suche manner and fourme as is aforesaide shall and will do knowledge suffer and execute and cause to be done knowledged suffred and executed all & every suche lawfull and reasonable acte and actes thinge and things w<sup>th</sup> warrantie only against the said John Mendam

his heires and assignes, As by the saide Erle his heires or assignes or his or their learned counsell in the lawe shalbe devised or advised aswell for the clere extinguishment of all the right title and estate of the saide John Mendam his heires and assignes of and in the premisses, As also for the conveyance and reassurance of all & singuler the saide manor messuage landes tenements & other the premisses w<sup>th</sup> their appurtenaunces to be had & reconveyed from & against the saide John Mendam his heires & assignes to the said Erle his heires & assignes for ever. In Witness whereof the saide parties to these present Indentures enterchangeably have sett their seales, Geven the daie & yere first above wrytten.

X Per me John Mendam X  
 G Palmer  
 Sigilla et deliber'  
 presente Scr. prefato.

The last two lines, which are much contracted, mean, I suppose, "Sealed and delivered in the presence of the aforesaid writer." In the above it seems that John Mendam advanced £500 to the Earl of Lincoln upon the security of the Manor of Newhall, and upon the Earl's not repaying the loan by the specified time the lender agreed to renew it for another period. The Church called "Saint Mary Mounthawlte benethe the fyshestreate in London" has long since been destroyed. It is said to have been originally a chapel of the Mounthaws, an old Norfolk family. The rectory still exists, now united (together with three others) with that of S. Nicholas Cole Abbey. Ed.

**1015.—Richard Howland, D.D., Bishop of Peterborough (999).**—The next two extracts are from the MSS. of the Marquess of Salisbury, as described in the Report of the Historical Manuscripts Commissioners.

Dr. Richard Howlande to Lord Burghley.

1578. July 15. Understanding that her Majesty cometh to Audley End the 22<sup>d</sup> of this month, I thought it my duty (after conference with the heads) to signify our determination, submitting it to your correction. For beside the oration to be uttered unto her Majesty by our orator, we purpose to present her Majesty with a pair of gloves, and the new testament in Greek by Robertus Stephanus in folio fair bound gilt, and enameled with her Majesties arms upon the cover, and her posie. We have likewise thought of a short exercise, and disputation in philosophy to be had before her Majesty; the questions are these:—

1<sup>a</sup>. Clementia in principe magis quam severitas laudanda est.

2<sup>a</sup>. Quæ fortuna fieri dicuntur fato fiunt.

The actors are such, as I do not doubt but will greatly commend themselves, and delight the hearers.

The questions, also, (as your Honour seeth) not unfit, but most agreeing to that place: not too high for the parties, and yet touching the head;

not to offend but greatly to delight, to hear that defended wherein her Majesty doth most justly glory, and we her subjects so happily live and flourish.

Wherein most humbly we crave your Lordship's will and pleasure, Also whether your Honour would have us come before her Majesty in lack gowns or scarlet.

I thought it good also to let you understand our further purpose, to present unto your Lordship, and the Earl of Leicester (being our High Steward) a pair of gloves.

Asks whether Burghley will come to Cambridge, and if so craves instructions how he would be received and with what exercises.

St. John's College, 15 July, 1578. (Part II., p. 188.)

1578. At p. 212 of the same volume is another letter from the same to the same, dated 10 Oct., also from S. John's College, in which Dr. Howland says he understands the new Mayor, Mr. Wallis, and other townsmen, propose to sue out a Commission of Sewers, not making the University privy thereto. The University is free from sickness.

1578. In Strype's *Annals*, Vol. II., Part II., pp. 203, 204, is a long account of the steps taken in order to render their entertainment worthy of the occasion, and to secure that proper representatives from the University should wait upon the Queen at Audley End. Lord Burghley was at the time Chancellor of the University, and Dr. Howland Vice-Chancellor. In his reply to the application for instructions described above, the Chancellor thanked the Heads, and said

that he liked well of their purpose of presenting themselves unto her Majesty at Audley End; and that of the two questions, he liked the better first. And that the second might yield many reasons impertinent for Christian ears, if it were not circumspectly used. But yet he left the further consideration thereof to themselves. That the present to her Majesty be allowed of. But that they must have regard, that the book had no savour of spike, which commonly bookbinders did seek to add, to make their books savour well. But that her Majesty could not abide such a strong scent. That they should do well to provide for the Earl of Leicester, the lord Chamberlain, and the Earl of Oxford some gloves, with a few verses in a paper joined to them, proper to every of their degrees; so that in number they exceeded not above eight verses. That for himself he could spare them; so that others might have them. And that if her vice-chamberlain might have a pair with some verses, it should do well, to conciliate his good will being a lover of learned men.

This was dated from the Court of Havering, the same day as Dr. Howland's letter to the Chancellor. On 25 July information reached the Vice-Chancellor that the Queen would be at Audley End the next day. The deputation from Cam-

bridge were "to present themselves in their long black gowns." The oration of the Public Orator was to be "demonstrativo genere," and was to dwell in particular on the blessings derived from the Queen's government by the two Universities, "which were kept by her, as by a nurse, in quietness, to be nourished in piety and all other learning." Strype adds that an account of this entertainment was soon after set forth in print in a book by Gabriel Harvey.\*

1579. A letter from Dr. Howland to Lord Burghley about a scholarship, dated 9 Nov., is catalogued in *State Papers*, 28, 636.

1580. Another letter stating that the number of scholars in Lady Margaret's foundation was twenty-four. (*Ib.*, p. 644.) 3 Feb.

7 Oct. Letter from Dr. Howland to the Earl of Rutland, recommending Mr. Stanton, B.D., of St. John's College. (MSS. of Duke of Rutland, i., 122.)

21 Nov. Letter from the same to Lord Burghley relating to the controversy between the University and Mr. Ventris.

In this same year a dispute arose between the Vice-Chancellor and Doctors of the town on the one part, and the Heads of the Colleges on the other concerning two graces that had been propounded by the late Vice-Chancellor. Archbishop Grindall was asked to settle the controversy. The graces were, (1) That the Heads of Colleges should have the right to appoint Doctors to Office, (2) That the Heads of Colleges being Divines were bound to preach in turn as other men do. The Archbishop saw and heard Dr. Barrow on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, and Dr. Howland on behalf of the Heads. In his report to the Chancellor, Lord Burghley, he advised "that both the contesting parties should be mildly admonished"; and accordingly, on 1 July, Burghley sent letters to the parties, exhorting them "to behave themselves in temperance," and he annulled both graces. (Strype's *Life of Archbishop Grindall*, pp. 371, &c.)

1581. 3 Feb. R. H. sends back to Lord Burghley the article "concerning his honourable gift to their college," and makes "a suggestion as to the election of his scholars." (*State Papers*, vol. 29, 5.)

1582. 8 Oct. The Master (R. H.) and seniors wrote a Latin letter to Lord Burghley complaining that by a Royal letter they had lost the proctor for the next year. (Baker, ij., 597.)

\* I searched the works of Gabriel Harvey, but could find no mention of this entertainment.—L.M.H.

In this year R. H. was Vice-Chancellor again : and he and two of the senior Doctors, Pern and Bell were appointed by Lord Burleigh to decide a debate which had arisen between Thomas Osborn and the college, Osborn contending he was exempted from some statutes of the college concerning the qualifications of such as were to be admitted fellows. Dr. Howland and his associates determined the cause on Osborn's side. (Strype, *Annals*, vol. iij., pt. i., p. 218.)

1582. 19 Nov. R. H. understands Lord Burghley desires to have an honest man and good scholar to read to Mr. Robert Cecil, and that Mr. Benett has recommended Mr. Wilkinson, fellow of St. John's. (MSS. Marq. of Salisbury, vol. iv.)

1582. 17 Dec. R. H. wrote to the President concerning the performing of ceremonies, and "the drawing of books, that the colledge may be at as little charge as may be." (Baker, i., 418.)

L. M. HOWLAND.

1016.—**The Bishop of Ely's Sword of State.**—In our notice of Mr. C. Johnson's Account of the Ely and Littleport Riots, which was given in the number of *Fenland Notes and Queries* for July, 1893, occurs this passage :—

We observe that at the service in Ely Cathedral before the opening of the special commission, his sword of State was carried before the Bishop. This was in virtue of his temporal jurisdiction over the Isle of Ely ; and the practice was only discontinued within living memory.

The civil jurisdiction of the Bishop of Ely was abolished in 1836 (see Art. 636).

It has often been asked what has become of the sword itself. Visitors to Ely would naturally expect that it would have been preserved as a treasure either in the Cathedral or in the palace of the Bishop. I venture to quote a few lines from the account of Bishop Sparke, in *The Cathedral Church of Ely* in Bell's Cathedral Series.

"In his time the temporal jurisdiction of the bishop over the Isle of Ely came to an end. On State occasions a sword used to be carried before the bishop when he attended cathedral service ; but this practice ceased when it was no longer right to exhibit any emblem of judicial authority. The sword itself was buried with Bishop Sparke."

ED.



1017.—**Horsey Hill** (978).—This sketch, from the Stowe MSS., 1025, was made in 1760 by an antiquary who traced the Roman roads made across the Fens. In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries the name occurs as Horseth. Horsey appears in Hayward's Survey of 1636. About a mile from

*Stowe MSS.*

1025.

*Sketch of a fort  
at Horsey Bridge  
near Stanground.  
A.D. 1760.*

*M.S.C.  
1903.*

Horsey Hill, on the way to Whittlesey, the road is carried by a bridge over the old river Nene (the King's Dyke of the Ordnance map), which bridge, in 1530, was known as Ravenswillow bridge. Before this was built there was a ferry: and if this was substantial enough to convey cattle and horses, the name Horsey may be connected with Horse-ferry. L.G.

**1018.—Lincolnshire Justices, &c., 1693.**—The following list is from a parchment among the Phillipps, MSS. The document is mostly in good preservation, though much worn in some places; but it is written with many Latin contractions, and the transcript may not in every instance be absolutely correct. It has been thought best to give the entire document, though it gives the officials of the whole county, and not to extract only those belonging exclusively to the Fen district.

ED.

Lincoln ss Calendarium Nominum omnium Justiciorum pacis Coronatorum Capitalium Constabulariorum et Ballivorum libertatum et Wapentagiorum qui summonati fuerunt ad comparendum ad Assisas Autumnales tentas apud Castrum Lincolnense die lune tricesimo primo die Julij Anno regni dominorum Willelmi et Marie Dei gratia Anglie Scotie Francie et Hibernie Regis et Regine fidei defensorum &c quinto Annoque domini 1693.

Lincoln to wit. A Calendar of the names of all Justices of the Peace, Coroners, Chief Constables, and Bailiffs of Liberties and Wapentakes who were summoned to appear at the Autumn Assizes held at Lincoln Castle on Monday the thirty-first day of July in the fifth year of their Majesties William and Mary by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King and Queen, Defenders of the Faith, &c., and in the year of our Lord 1693.

Names of the Justices of the Peace for the Parts of Lindsey in the County aforesaid.

John, Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England and Metropolitan.

John Somers, Knight, Lord Keeper of the great seal of England.

Thomas, Marquess of Carmarthen, President of the Council of the King and Queen.

Henry, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal of England.

Charles, Duke of Boulton.

Robert, Earl of Lindsey, Great Chamberlain of England.

William, Earl of Devon, Master of the Household of the King and Queen.

Charles, Earl of Dorset and Chamberlain of the Household of the King and Queen.

Albericus, Earl of Oxford.

Charles, Earl of Shrewsbury.

William, Earl of Bedford.

John, Earl of Bath.

Charles, Earl of Macklesfeild.

Daniel, Earl of Nottingham, one of the Chief Secretaries of the King and Queen.

Thomas, Earl of Falkenberg.

Charles, Earl of Monmouth.

Ralph, Earl of Mountague.

John, Earl of Marlborough.

William, Earl of Portland.

Arthur, Earl of Torrington.

Richard, Earl of Scarborough.

Henry, Earl of Warrington.

Francis, Viscount Newport, Treasurer of the Household of the King and Queen.

Henry, Viscount Sidney, another Chief Secretary of the King and Queen.

George, Viscount Castleton.

Henry, Bishop of London.

John, Lord Wharton.

Henry, Lord Capell.

John, Lord Lovelace.

Robert, Lord Willoughby, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Daniell, Lord Sherrard.

John Trevor, Knight, Master of the Rolls of the Court of Chancery.

Robert Holkard, Knight.

Thomas Wharton, Esq., Controller of the Household of the King and Queen.

John Louthier, Bart., Vice-chamberlain of the Household of the King and Queen.

Edward Russell, Esq.

Richard Hampden, Esq.

Henry Goodricke, Bart.

Hugh Boscawen, Esq.

John Holt, Knight, Chief Justice at Pleas.

William Gregory, Knight, one of the Justices at Pleas.

John Turton, Knight, one of the Barons of the Exchequer.

Edward Ward, Esq., Attorney General of the King and Queen.

Thomas Trevor, Knight, Solicitor General of the King and Queen.

*p* Peregrine Bertie, Sen., *p* Charles Bertie, Peregrine Bertie, Jun., Philip Bertie, Esqs.\*

Henry Mounson, John Oldfeild, Thomas Hussey, John Brownlowe, *p* Willowby Hickman, William Ellis, John Bowles, Thomas Barnardiston, William Massingberd, Barts.

*p* Thomas Meares, Edward Ayscogh, Knights.

Charles Dymocke, Charles Pelham (*dead*), *p* Stephen Rothwell, Charles Woolley, Sen. (*dead*), *p* Thomas Hatt, *p* Vincent Grantham, George Whitcote, *p* Brian Nevile of . . . †  
*p* William Oldfeild, Esqs.

Samuel Fuller, D.D., Chancellor of Lincoln.

James Gardner, D.D., Subdean of Lincoln.

*p* John Hussey, *p* John Chaplaine, *p* Charles Hutton, Christopher Hales, *p* John Rossiter, *p* Francis Purley, Robert Archer, *p* Charles Fitchwiliam, William Tomline of Ryby, *p* John Sands, Henry Newstead, Peter Short, *p* Robert Ryther, Jun., *p* Matthew Lister, John Bishopp of Stickford (*dead*), Robert Tyrwhitt, Thomas Pownall, Cyriack Westlid, Richard Nelthorpe, Esqs.

\* These gentlemen probably take precedence of the Baronets as members of the family of the Earl of Lindsey. Before some names is a contracted mark which I take to mean *presens*, present at the Assizes. This mark is here represented by *p*.

† A word here much worn and illegible.

Names of the Justices of the Peace for the parts of Kesteven in the County aforesaid.

William Gregory, Knight, one of the Justices at Pleas.

John Turton, Knight, one of the Barons of the Exchequer.

Peregrine Bertie, Sen., Charles Bertie, Peregrine Bertie, Jun., Philip Bertie, Esqs.

Henry Mounson, Francis Faine (*dead*), Thomas Hussey, *p* John Newton, *p* John Brownlowe, William Ellis, John Oldfeild, John Thorald, Edward Hussey, William Buck, *p* Richard Cust, Richard Rothwell, Thomas Trollopp, Thomas Barnardiston, Barts.

John Sherrard, *p* Thomas Meares, *p* William Yorke, Knights.  
*p* Thomas Skipwith, Knight, Serjeant at Law.

Charles Dymocke, Thomas Lister, Henry Stone (*dead*), Edward Payne, William Hyde, Sen., *p* William Hyde, Jun., Pury Cust, Christopher Clapham, Mountagu Cholmeley, Richard Winch, William Trollopp, Esqs.

Samuel Fuller, Chancellor of Lincoln.

Gilbert Bury, *p* Charles Hutton, Christopher Hales, *p* Charles Halford, *p* Antony Wingfeild, *p* Thomas Bury, Ciprian Thornton, *p* Christopher Beresford, *p* John Harvey, John Thorold, John Tiller, Robert Fisher, Noah Neale, *p* Daniel Deligne, *p* Robert Caldron, Esqs.

Names of the Justices of the Peace for the Parts of Holland in the County aforesaid.

William Gregory, Knight, one of the Justices at Pleas.

John Turton, Knight, one of the Barons of the Exchequer.

Peregrine Bertie, Sen., Charles Bertie, Peregrine Bertie, Jun., Philip Bertie, Esqs.

Thomas Hussey, Richard Cust, John Oldfeild, Thomas Trollopp, Barts.

*p* Henry Heron, Knight of the Bath.

*p* William Yorke, Knight.

William Hyde, Sen., *p* William Hyde, Jun., *p* Christopher Clapham, *p* William Brownlowe, *p* William Duckler (?),

Christopher Hales, *p* John Harvey, *p* Bevill Wimberley, *p* Henry Bywell of Wikeham, John Jay (*dead*), *p* Charles Hutton, *p* Anthony Wingfeild, *p* Peregrine Bertie of Gedney, Walter Johnson of Spalding (*dead*), John Toller of Billingbrough, Ruben Parke of Lutton, *p* William Belgrave, Jun., of Boston, *p* Samuel Hutchinson, John Burton (*dead*), Esqs.

Names of the Coroners for the County aforesaid.

Richard Hudson, Thomas Dickenson, John . . . . . ,  
Thomas . . . . heringham, John Barnard, William Lowe,  
John Nevile, Gentlemen.

Names of the Chief Constables of the Wapentakes of the County aforesaid.

John . . . . worth, Gen., Thomas Scrimshire, Gen.; (Wapentake of) Lovedon.

John Perne (?), Gen., *p* William Earle, Gen.; Ello.

Francis Cropley, Gen., *p* Robert Beaver, Gen.; Nesse.

William Grant, Gen., Francis Franckland, Gen.; Boothby Graffoe.

*p* Edward Trott, Gen., Edward Ledgets, Gen., John Havard (?), Gen.; Yarbrough.

Edward Jackson, Gen., Robert Belton, Gen., Robert Bett, Gen., Thomas Bell, Gen.; Corringham and Aslaoce.

William Stamford, Gen., *p* John Micklewhaite, Gen., Thomas Todd, Gen.; Bradley Haverstoe.

Robert Arnold, Gen., William Pell, Gen.; Beltisloe.

Matthew Parnoll, Gen., William Jesop, Gen.; Flaxwell.

Richard Senner, Gen., Jonathan Pesgrave, Gen.; Kirton Skirbecke.

John Marsh, Gen., John Mason, Gen.; Winnibrigge and Treo.

Charles Cockram, Gen., Joseph Taylor, Gen.; Gartree.

Thomas Adlard, Gen., Charles Pilkington, Gen.; Soke of Horncastle.

Jonathan Paule, Gen., *p* John Hutchinson, Gen.; Soke of Bullingbrooke.

*p* William Chapman, Gen., William Jerold (?), Gen.;  
Walshcroft.

John . . . . ., Gen., Timothy Millington, Gen.; Hill.

John Oochgeneral (?) of Heckington, Gen., Thomas Melley,  
Gen.; Aswardhirne.

Edward Short, Gen., John Parker, Gen.; Langoe.

Richard Longlande, Gen., William Hardwicke, Gen.;  
Aveland.

Thomas Gilbert, Gen., John Lacey, Gen., John Mawe,  
Gen.; Manley.

John Bushee, Gen., Adlard Thorpe, Gen.; Candleshawe.

Jonathan Sealeby, Gen., Joseph North, Gen.; Calsworth.

John Curtis, Gen., John Fleshborne, Gen.; Wraggo.

Henry Noale, Gen., *p* William Barber, Gen., Daniel  
Walgrave, Gen.; Louthesk and Ludbrough.

John Stowe, Jun.; Lawres.

Henry Cawood, Gen., John Dickenson, Gen.; Kirton.

John Willey, Gen., Robert Cole, Gen.; Well.

Names of Bailiffs of Liberties in the County aforesaid.

*p* Adlard Stubley, Gen., Bailiff of the liberty of Kirton.

John Rollinson, . . . . of Gainsbrough.

John Maunwell, . . . . of Bullingbrooke.

Robert Young, . . . . of Well.

Thomas Bawdricke, . . . . of the Soce of Horncastle.

*p* John Edwards, . . . . of Spilsby.

Names of the Bailiffs of Wapentakes in the County aforesaid.

George Wells, Bailiff of the Wapentake of Wragge.

Isaac Sandon, . . . . of Boothby Graffoe.

Cawdron Blobb, . . . . of Kirton Skirbecke.

*p* John Butler, . . . . of Loveden.

William Bayley, . . . . of Aveland.

Thomas Hernford, . . . . of Flaxwell.

William Stennett, . . . . of Langoe.

Laurence Ingham, . . . . of Lawres.

Thomas Calvert, . . . . of Corringham and Aslaceo.

Robert Young, . . . . of Well.  
 Thomas Bawdricke, . . . . of Gartree.  
 Godfrey Blowe, . . . . of Hill.  
 Francis Turner, . . . . of Ello.  
 Evan Lloyd, . . . . of Bradley Haverstowe.  
 Charles Evans, . . . . of Yarbrough.  
 William Fenwicke, . . . . of Loutheske and Ludbrough.  
 Thomas Waterland, . . . . of Manley.  
 Henry Bushey, . . . . of Aswardhurne.  
 John Norton, . . . . of Candleshawe.  
 Anthony Wigley, . . . . of Calcworth.  
 William White, of Walchcroft.  
 Thomas Taylor, . . . . of Nesse.  
 John Higgins, . . . . of Beltesloe.  
 Henry Everett, . . . . of Winnibrigge and Threo.

Thomas Pownall Ar'  
 Vic.

**1019.—Witchcraft in the Fens, 1903.**—A note in the *St. James's Gazette* of 13 July mentions several instances of modern credulities. Among them is the following :—

A few months ago we were shown that even at this age belief in witchcraft prevails in rural England. A Bottisham, Cambridgeshire, carter, believing his horses bewitched, procured from the "wise man" of his district a countervailing charm. It was a "broth" for his horses compounded from horse shoes, nails, and iron filings, by drinking of which one of the animals died.

**1020.—South Lincolnshire Families. Frotheringham.**  
 —The following extracts are from the Court Rolls of the Manors of Moulton Fitzwater and Dominorum, and relate to the family of Frotheringham, of Moulton and Holbeach.

1697—Richard Frotheringham's name appears as on the Jury of Court Leet from this year till 1713 (Liber B; fo. 141).

1711—(Dominorum.) Richard Frotheringham purchases of one Baldwin, and is admitted. He is described as of Moulton, yeoman (C; fo. 91).



1713—Death of Richard Frotheringham recorded in April (C ; fo. 112). John Frotheringham admitted to land in Moulton on death of Richard (C ; fo. 115).

1721—John Frotheringham is admitted as son and heir of John in October (C ; fo. 277, 278).

1726—John Frotheringham, a minor, was admitted on death of his father. Joseph and Samuel Frotheringham were guardians. His father's will was dated 8 Jan., 1725. "I give to my son John Frotheringham and his heirs for ever all my right tythe and interest in that house and lands in Moulton now in the tenure of Richard Frotheringham" (D ; fo. 15).

1785—At a Court held 13 Oct., John Frotheringham, described as of Holbeach, Gentleman, surrenders to his will (F ; fo. 18).

1792—Death of John Frotheringham recorded in April (F ; fo. 72).

1792—At a Court held 3 Oct., Maria Frotheringham, aged 4 (? 14) admitted. The will of John Frotheringham, dated 12 Feb., 1792, described as above, is produced in Court. "I give and bequeath to my dear daughter Maria all my manors messuages cottages closes of lands and hereditaments with their respective members and appurtenances" (excepting estates in Sutton, which his executor is to sell) "situate lying and being in the parishes of Holbeach Moulton Weston Wyberton Skirbeck Boston Wigtoft and Thorpe on the Hill in Lincolnshire to hold to the said Maria Frotheringham her heirs and assigns for ever" (F ; fo. 80). He held about 18 acres in Moulton Dominorum Manor, and about 2 in Fitzwater Manor.

1809—At a Court held 4 Oct., Maria Frotheringham, then wife of Charles Vicars Hunter, of Lincoln's Inn, London, Esq., was admitted to 1<sup>ac</sup>. 1<sup>ro</sup>. 0<sup>li</sup> to which her father had been admitted 5 Oct., 1726. She produced her father's will as above (G ; fo. 5).

1810—On 3 Oct., Maria Hunter and her husband Charles Vicars Hunter surrendered their lands in Dominorum Manor to Joseph Chambers and Mary Cowley, and those in Fitzwater Manor to Mary Cowley (G ; fo. 8). William Hunter, late of Newark, Esq., but then of Hillburn (?) co. Derby, was a party to the transaction under Maria Hunter's marriage settlement.

I shall be very pleased if any of your readers can give me any information relating to this South Lincolnshire Quaker family.

Lindum House, Aldershot.

W. E. FOSTER, F.S.A.

Mr. John Frotheringham, of Holbeach, occurs as a subscriber of £5 to the relief of the sufferers from a terrible fire in Spalding on 2 Apr., 1715. See Art. 658.—ED.

END OF VOL. V.











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